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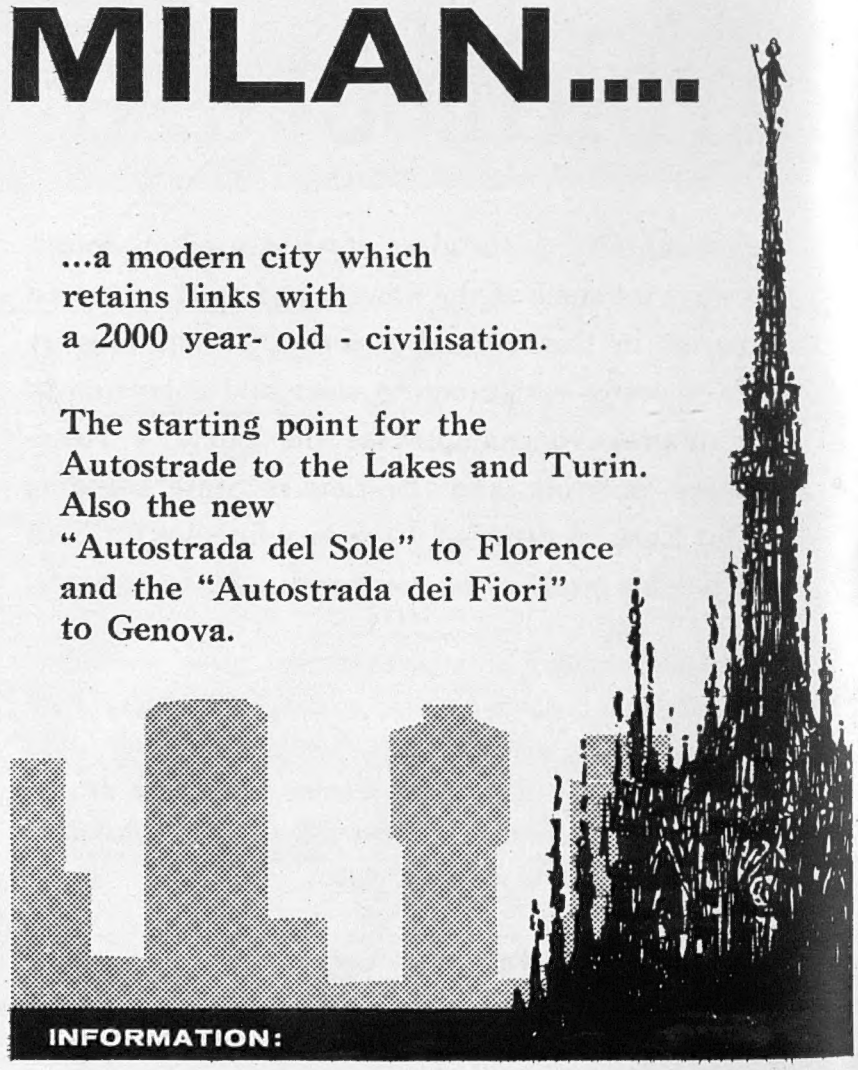

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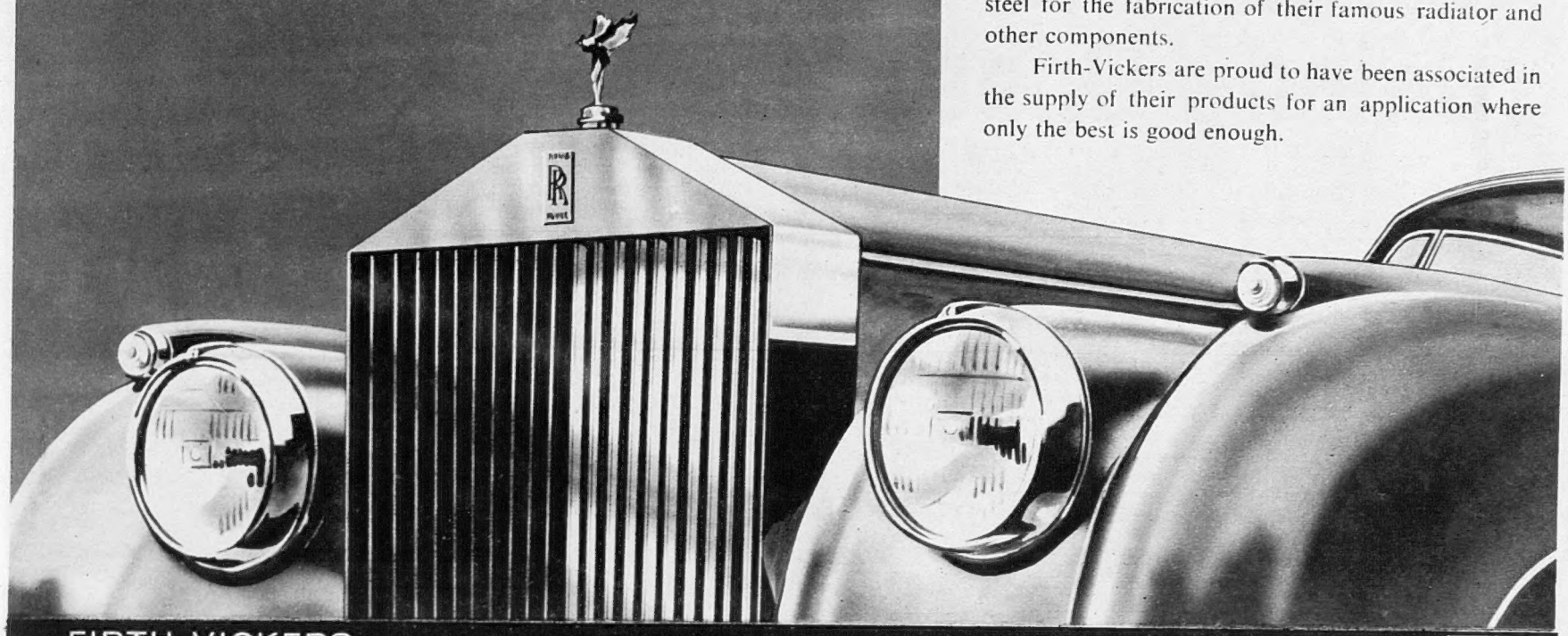

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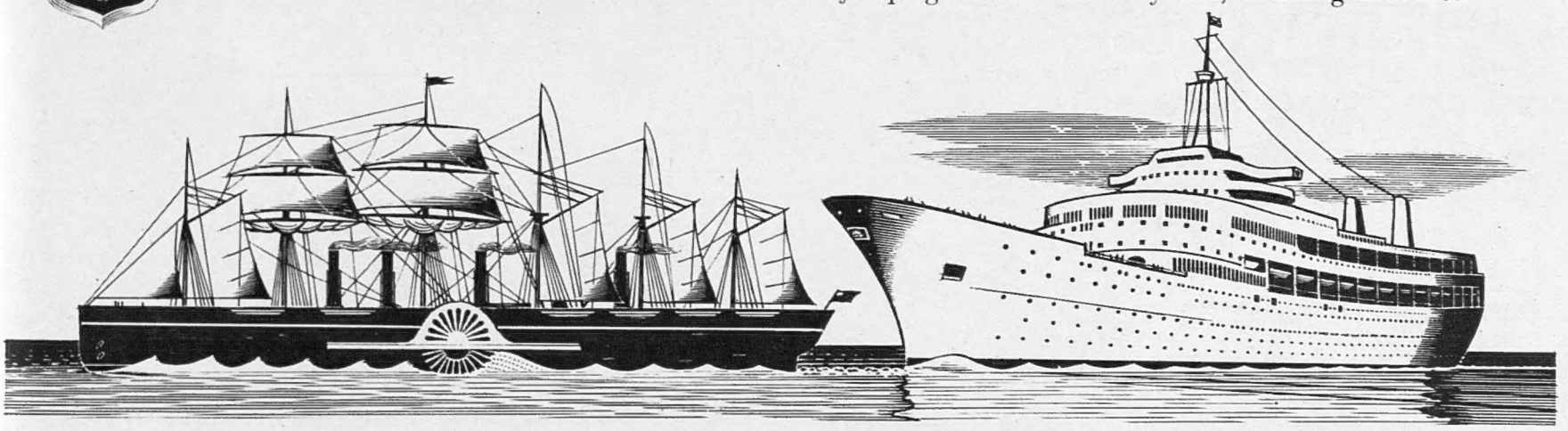

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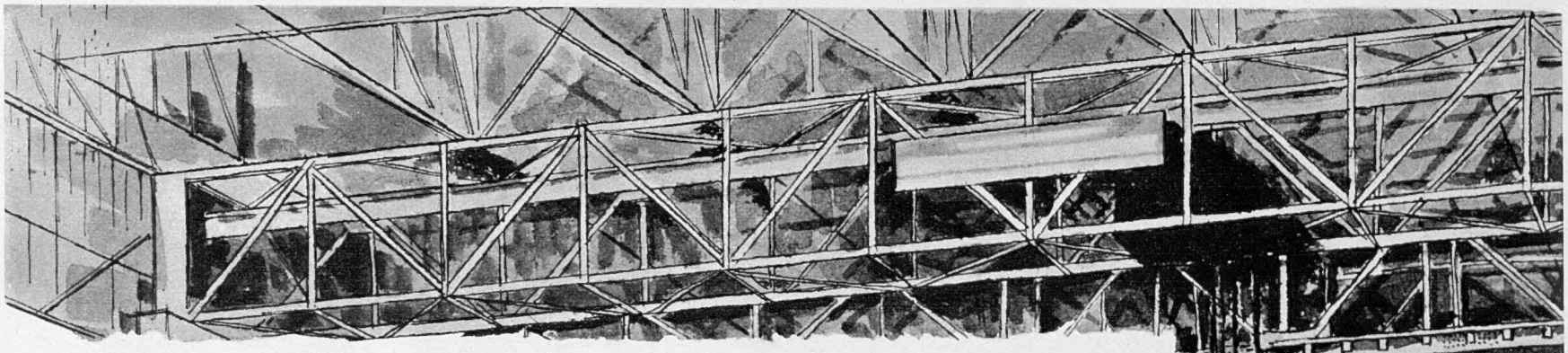

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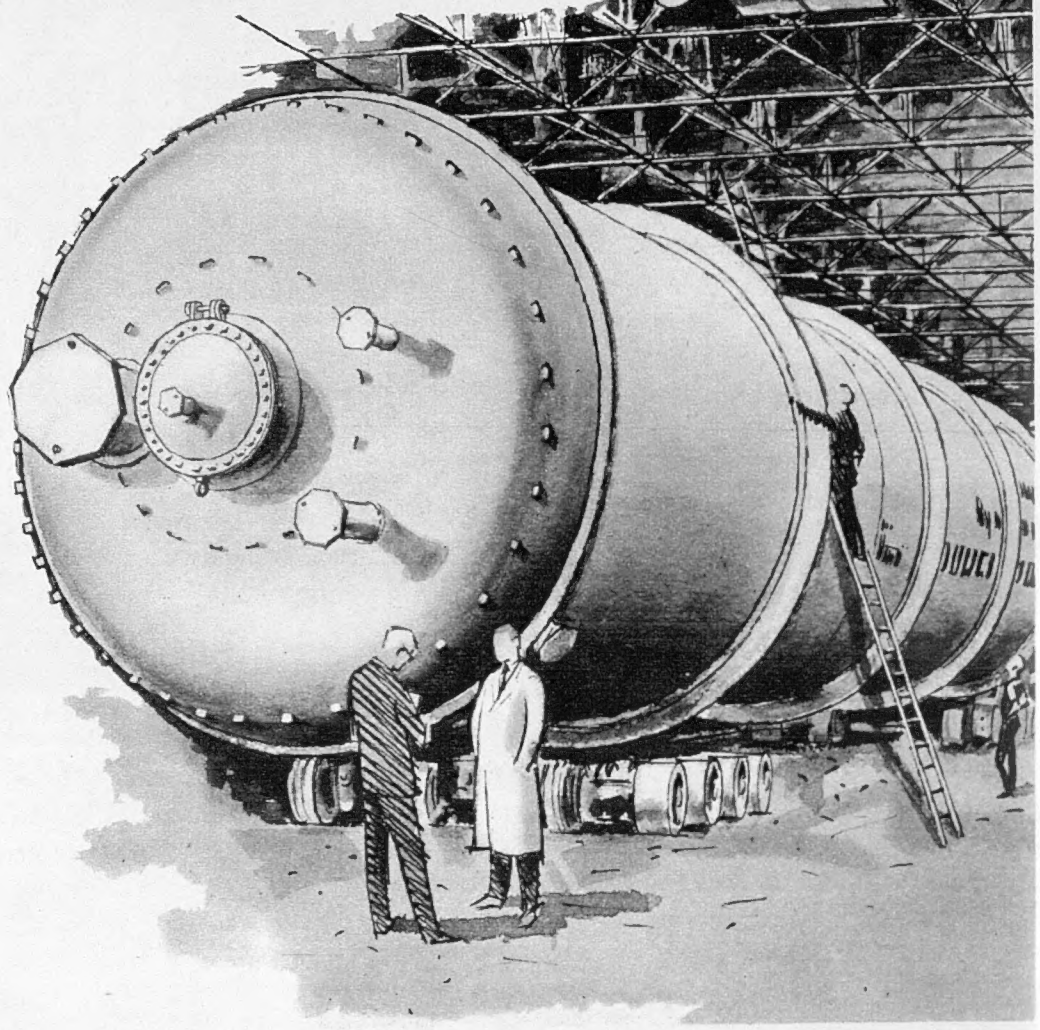

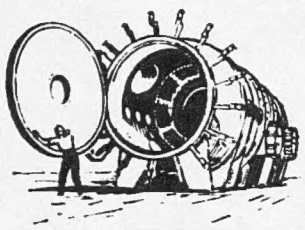

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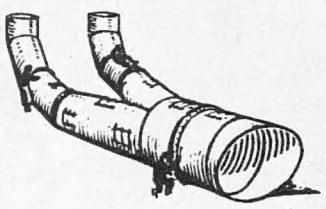

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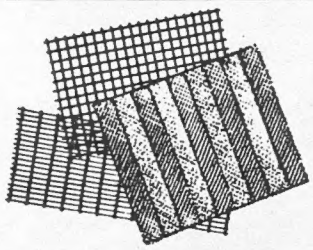

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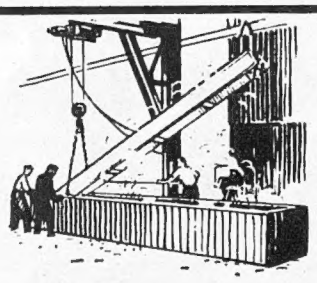

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Volume CCXLVIII No. 3225

THE SPHERE

LONDON, March 24, 1962

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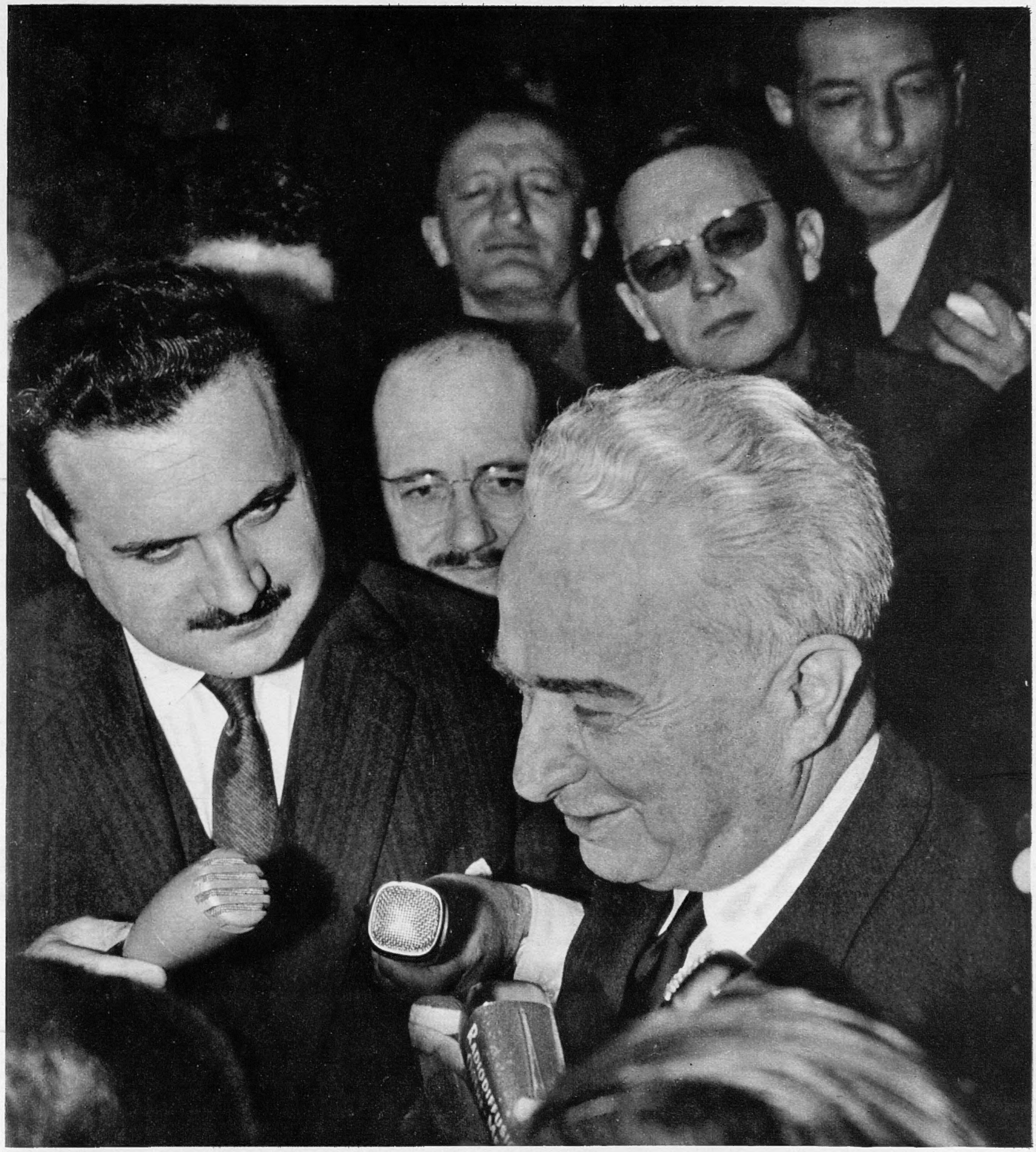

CEASE-FIRE IN ALGERIA

M. Louis Joxe, French Minister for Algerian Affairs, talks to the Press at Evian. He was leading the French delegation to the historic talks with the representatives of the Algerian Nationalists which resulted in the announcement of the cease-fire in the seven-year-long conflict. Its terms became operative at midday on March 19. On the day before, Ben Bella, the Algerian Nationalist leader, held by the French since 1956, was released. The agreement allows for a provisional government in Algeria until a referendum is held in a few months to decide the future of the country. Algerians of all races will choose to remain part of France; be independent yet associated with France; or be absolutely independent. In a nationwide broadcast President de Gaulle called on all Frenchmen to support his policy of giving the Algerians a free hand to decide their own destiny. While there was great relief among peoples of goodwill throughout the world, it was realised that the armistice was not a peace, especially in view of the "declaration of war" on President de Gaulle by the Secret Army Organisation, the French Fascist terrorist organisation

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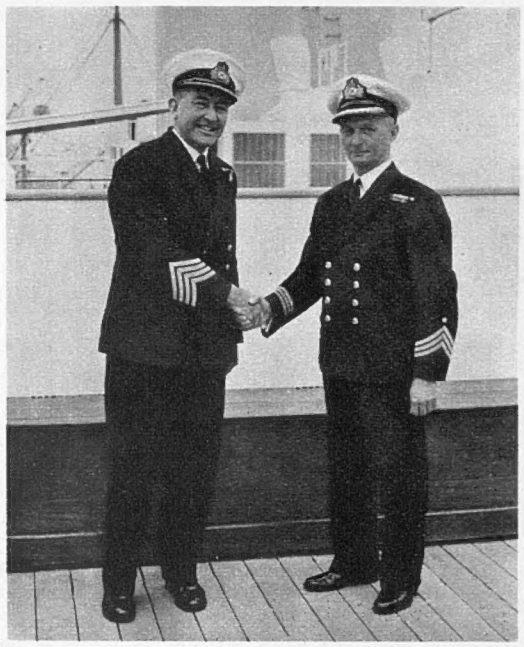
On the morning after the Orpington by-election, Mr. Eric Lubbock, the jubilant Liberal victor, waves from the front gate of his home, accompanied by his wife and two of their three children. In one of the most startling results of any by-election in recent years, Mr. Lubbock polled 22,846 votes to the 14,991 for Mr. Peter Goldman, Conservative, and the 5,350 for Mr. Alan Jinkinson, Labour. At the General Election, in 1959, in what was for long a safe Conservative seat, Conservatives had a majority of well over 14,000. **Far right:** Mr. Macmillan and Mr. Iain Macleod, chairman of the Conservative Party, on their way to the Conservative Central Council annual meeting in Westminster on the day after the Orpington poll. The Prime Minister described the result as a shock and even a disappointment. There were two other by-elections last week. The Conservatives narrowly held Blackpool North from the Liberals, with the Labour candidate third —the new M.P. is Mr. N. Miscampbell. At Middlesbrough East, Labour easily retained the seat, Mr. A. Bottomley polling over 11,000 more than the Liberal who took second place

MR. LUBBOCK, THE NEW M.P. FOR ORPINGTON, AND HIS FAMILY

GOING TO THE INQUEST

Sixty-year-old Captain Geoffrey Fletcher, the retiring master of the Royal Mail Lines' *Andes*, shakes hands with Captain Leslie Tully Peterson (right), the new master, on the liner's bridge at Southampton Docks. Captain Fletcher left the liner last week after forty-five years at sea



THE RETIRING AND NEW MASTERS OF *ANDES*

Far right: From left at the Italian Embassy in London are Mr. Watkinson, Britain's Defence Minister; Signor Giulio Andreotti, the Italian Minister of Defence; and Signor Pietro Quaroni, the Italian Ambassador in London. Signor Andreotti, who was also the Minister of Defence in the last Italian Government, was in Britain for joint talks on Western defence

THE ITALIAN DEFENCE MINISTER MEETS MR. WATKINSON

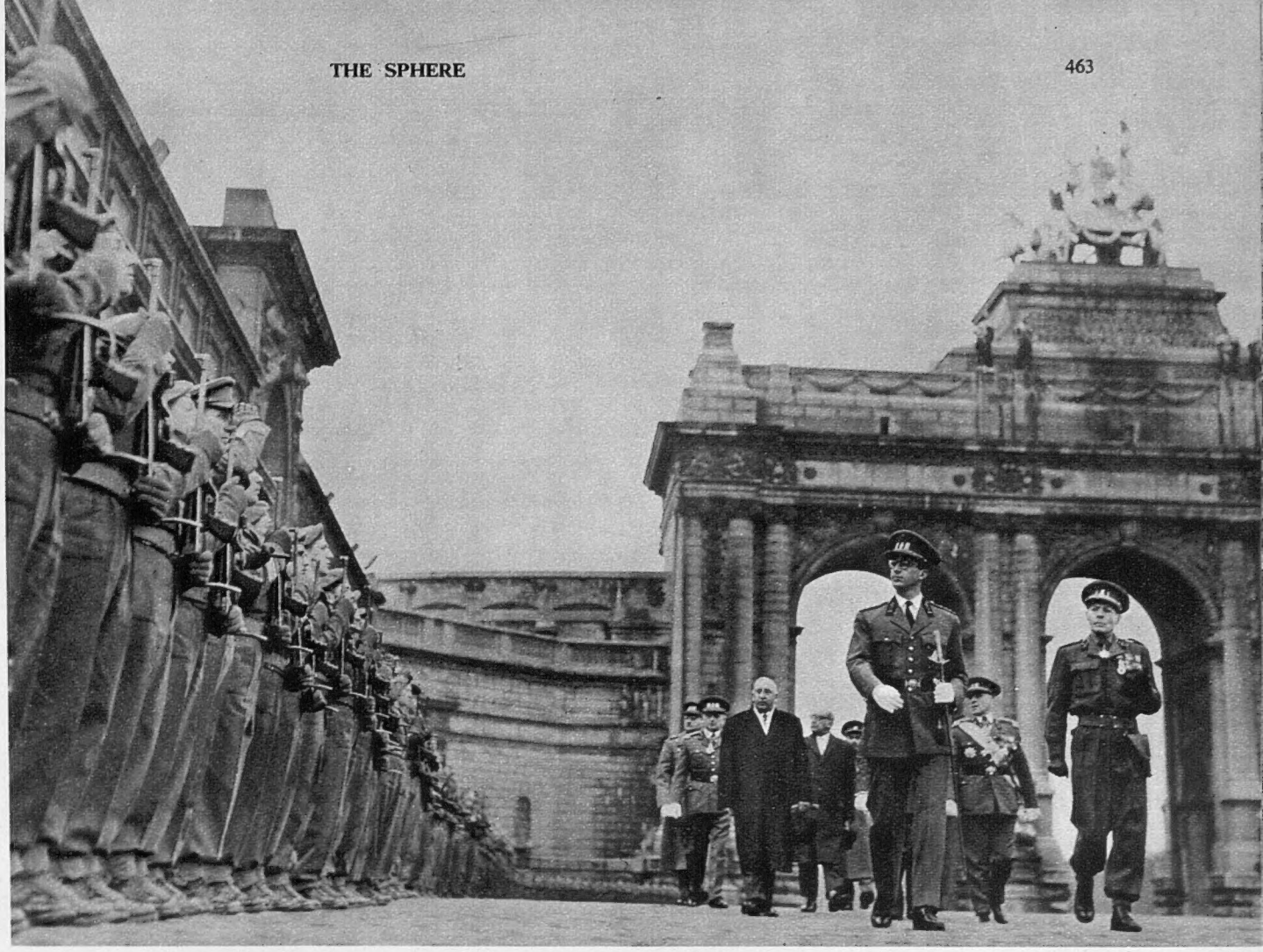
Wearing a miner's helmet, Lord Robens (pointing), chairman of the National Coal Board, looks at a revolutionary new mining machine, the Collins Miner, being demonstrated at the Swadlincote Test Site in Derbyshire of the N.C.B.'s Central Engineering Establishment. Extreme left is Mr. H. E. Collins, who pioneered the project. The machine, if it was manned by twenty men working in three shifts, could produce 1,000 tons of coal a day, the normal output of 300 miners

LORD ROBENS SEES A NEW MINING MACHINE

Far right: Mr. Geoffrey Clarke, the designer of the abstract cross for the new Coventry Cathedral, stands in his workshop by a model of the cross made from expanded polystyrene. The cross, made from aluminium alloy and weighing 12 cwt., will be lowered into its position on the steeple next month. (For a new picture of Coventry Cathedral see page 471)

A MODEL OF THE NEW CROSS FOR COVENTRY CATHEDRAL

THE NEWS IN PICTURES



A ROYAL AND MILITARY OCCASION IN THE CAPITAL OF BELGIUM

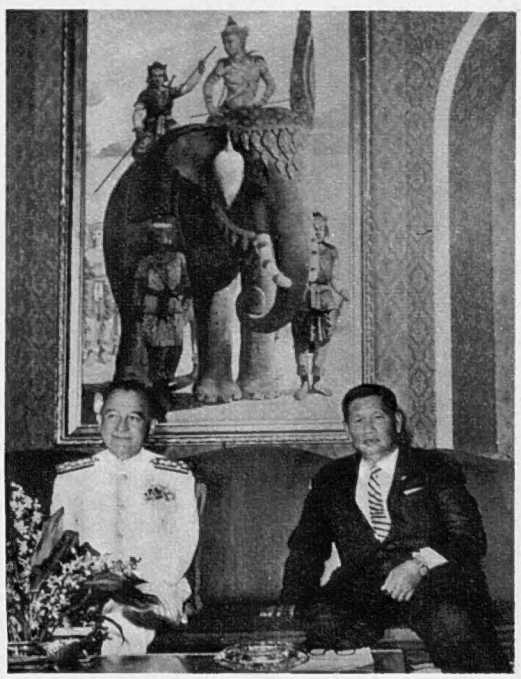
Troops present arms as King Baudouin of the Belgians arrives at the Esplanade de Cinquantenaire in Brussels. He was about to present new Colours to certain regiments. The Belgian Army, consisting of one corps of two infantry divisions, is in the process of being reorganised. Belgium and the Netherlands have an agreement for the standardisation of equipment, co-ordination of training and contacts between the military colleges

SCOTLAND'S MODERATOR IN JERUSALEM

Below right: President Izhak Ben-Zvi of Israel (seated on the left) looks at an old Bible with the Right Rev. A. C. Craig, Moderator of the Church of Scotland, in the Presidential Residence in Jerusalem. Dr. Craig was on an overseas tour

A MEMORIAL TO ADMIRAL BYRD

Far right: A general view of the unveiling ceremony of the memorial to Admiral Richard Byrd, the celebrated American explorer, on the top of Mount Victoria, overlooking Wellington, in New Zealand. Admiral Byrd, who died in 1957, was the first man to fly over the North and South Poles, and led various U.S. expeditions in Antarctica



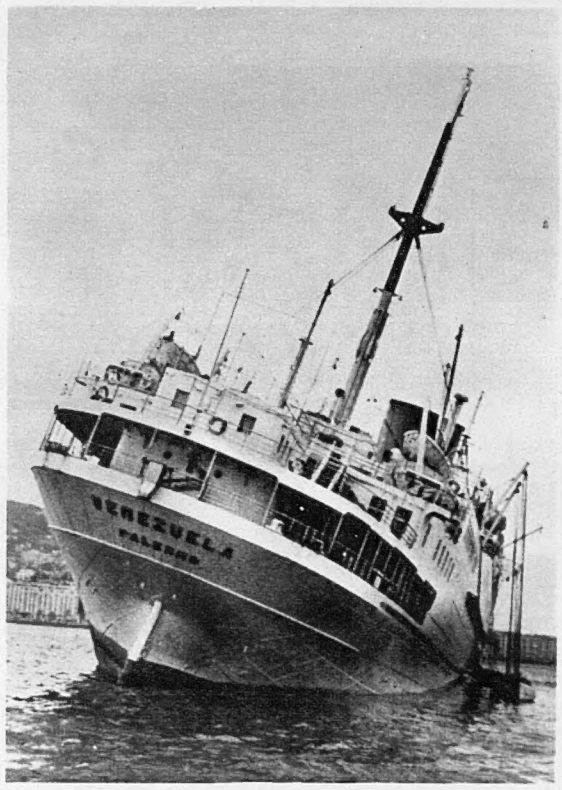
U.S. C.-IN-C. IN THAILAND

Below right: At the Government House in Bangkok, Admiral Harry D. Felt, C.-in-C. of U.S. Forces in the Pacific, is with the Prime Minister of Thailand, Field-Marshal Sarit Thanarat. They recently discussed the military situation in South-East Asia. According to reports from Washington, U.S. military advisers in Thailand have started training the Thai Army in the anti-guerilla tactics being employed against Communist infiltration in South Vietnam. Admiral Felt also visited Saigon for talks with the South Vietnam President Ngo Dinh Diem on the developing Communist guerilla warfare in South Vietnam. **Far right:** T-28C fighter-bomber training aircraft, with U.S.A.F. insignia on the fuselage and South Vietnamese markings on the tail, fly on a training flight. These aircraft have been involved in a number of combat missions in which they have attacked Communist forces. Most of these missions have been flown by South Vietnamese. But at a news conference in Washington, Mr. McNamara, the U.S. Defence Secretary, admitted that in a few cases American pilots in Vietnam had returned ground fire. It is estimated that there are 4,000 American troops in the country (see pages 466-467 for King Bhumipol of Thailand's visit to Pakistan)

AMERICAN FIGHTER TRAINERS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

THE NEWS IN PICTURES

The Italian liner *Venezuela* lists to starboard after having been beached on a sandbank on the coast of the French Riviera at Cannes. The master of the liner, Captain Petro, said that she had been beached after a submerged rock had torn a 30-ft. hole in her hull. The 190 passengers and 300 crew were taken off



ITALIAN LINER IS BEACHED NEAR CANNES

Far right: Members of the T.U.C.'s General Council at London Airport before leaving for a visit to Paris at the invitation of the French Government. Among those in the party were the Chairman, Miss Anne Godwin (centre), Sir Tom O'Brien (second from right) and Mr. George Woodcock, the T.U.C.'s General Secretary (far right). They will hear French views on such topics as economic planning and the Common Market

BRITISH TRADE UNIONISTS OFF TO PARIS

President de Valera of the Irish Republic and his wife stand with the Pope in the Vatican after being received in audience on St. Patrick's Day. The day also marked the conclusion of a year's commemoration of the fifteenth centenary of the Saint's death. The Pope conferred on Mr. de Valera the Supreme Order of Christ, the Vatican's highest decoration, for services to the Roman Catholic Church

PRESIDENT DE VALERA AND HIS WIFE RECEIVED BY THE POPE

Far right: Mr. Khrushchev casts his vote in polling booth Number 52 in Moscow during the election in Russia. Mr. Molotov had voted in the same booth shortly before him. The Soviet Prime Minister himself was standing for re-election to the Supreme Soviet in another district of Moscow. Voting was for a single list of candidates and the result was regarded by psephologists as a foregone conclusion

NO MARGINAL FEARS AT THIS POLL

J. G. Willcox, the England full back, is tackled by the Scottish three-quarter, J. J. McPartlin, in the Calcutta Cup Match played at Murrayfield. The game ended in a draw, a penalty goal being kicked by each side. Thus Scotland gained neither the Calcutta Cup, held by England from last season, nor the Triple Crown, of victories over the three Home Countries

A DRAWN CALCUTTA CUP MATCH

Far right: M. J. Christmas plays out of the rough at the first hole of the final of the Amateur Professional Foursomes, played over the West Course at Wentworth. He and his partner, E. R. Whitehead, beat G. W. Clark and R. L. Moffitt by three and two to win the event, the first national golf tournament of the year

THE AMATEUR PROFESSIONAL FOURSOMES

NEWS SUMMARY

Early difficulties at Geneva; space threats from Mr. Khrushchev; political, financial and learned controversies in Britain; meeting Communist expansionism in Asia; Israeli-Syrian border-fighting

INTERNATIONAL

The armistice in **Algeria** took first place in the news at the start of the week, with the Disarmament Conference at **Geneva** running a good second. After the opening sessions, the expected positions had been reached. The West was asking for international inspections against nuclear tests " on the site " in nuclear countries. Russia was refusing to concede this principle, arguing that detection apparatus was now so advanced that tests in any one country could be monitored by detecting stations outside that country. Lord Home flew back to **London** over the weekend for consultations with Mr. Macmillan, and then returned to Geneva. There were reports that the eight neutrals (Brazil, Burma, Ethiopia, India, Mexico, Nigeria, Sweden and the U.A.R.) among the seventeen powers at the conference table might try to produce a formula for breaking the East-West deadlock (see also John Connell, page 468).

In a pre-election speech in **Moscow** Mr. Khrushchev announced that Russia had a new weapon, what he called a " global rocket." Scientists in the West took this to mean a nuclear missile which could reach any part of the world when launched from the U.S.S.R. In **Washington** it was learnt that earlier this month President Kennedy had proposed to Mr. Khrushchev that there should be exploratory American-Russian talks about the possibility of co-operation in five specific areas of space research. (Mr. Khrushchev Votes—picture on page 464.)

GREAT BRITAIN

At the beginning of this week, Mr. Butler, the Home Secretary, became the Cabinet Minister at the head of a new Central African Office. The responsibilities of the Secretaries of State for the Colonies and for Commonwealth Relations for the territories within the Central African Federation have now passed to Mr. Butler. Until Mr. Macmillan's new move, responsibilities for the Rhodesian Federation were split between the two Secretaries of State. It was believed that Mr. Butler planned to visit Rhodesia in the near future.

The long-drawn-out battle by I.C.I. to take over Courtaulds ended in defeat for I.C.I., which obtained only 38½ per cent. of Courtauld's ordinary shares, instead of approximately 50 per cent. necessary for legal control. According to Mr. Chambers, I.C.I.'s chairman, there the matter rested for the time being. He hoped all concerned would be able to find a sound basis for a new relationship between the two companies.

Dr. Charles Hill, the Minister of Housing and Local Government, announced that he had approved in principle the proposal to build a relief road for **Oxford** across the south part of Christ Church Meadow. This is basically the plan submitted by the Oxford City Council and approved by Sir Frederick Armer, who conducted the 1960 Inquiry on behalf of the Minister. It is extremely unlikely that Oxford will allow the matter to rest there. The long-drawn-out controversy over Oxford's traffic congestion and what to do about it will continue in Parliament and at public inquiries dealing with objections to the scheme and compulsory purchase orders.

FAR EAST

Russia suggested to Britain last weekend that as co-chairmen of the 1954 Geneva conference on Indo-China they send a joint message to Washington asking the U.S. to stop military " interference " in South Vietnam. The U.S. view is that South Vietnam is the victim of Communist aggression from North Vietnam and that U.S. military aid is for the purposes of defence. (See page 463.)

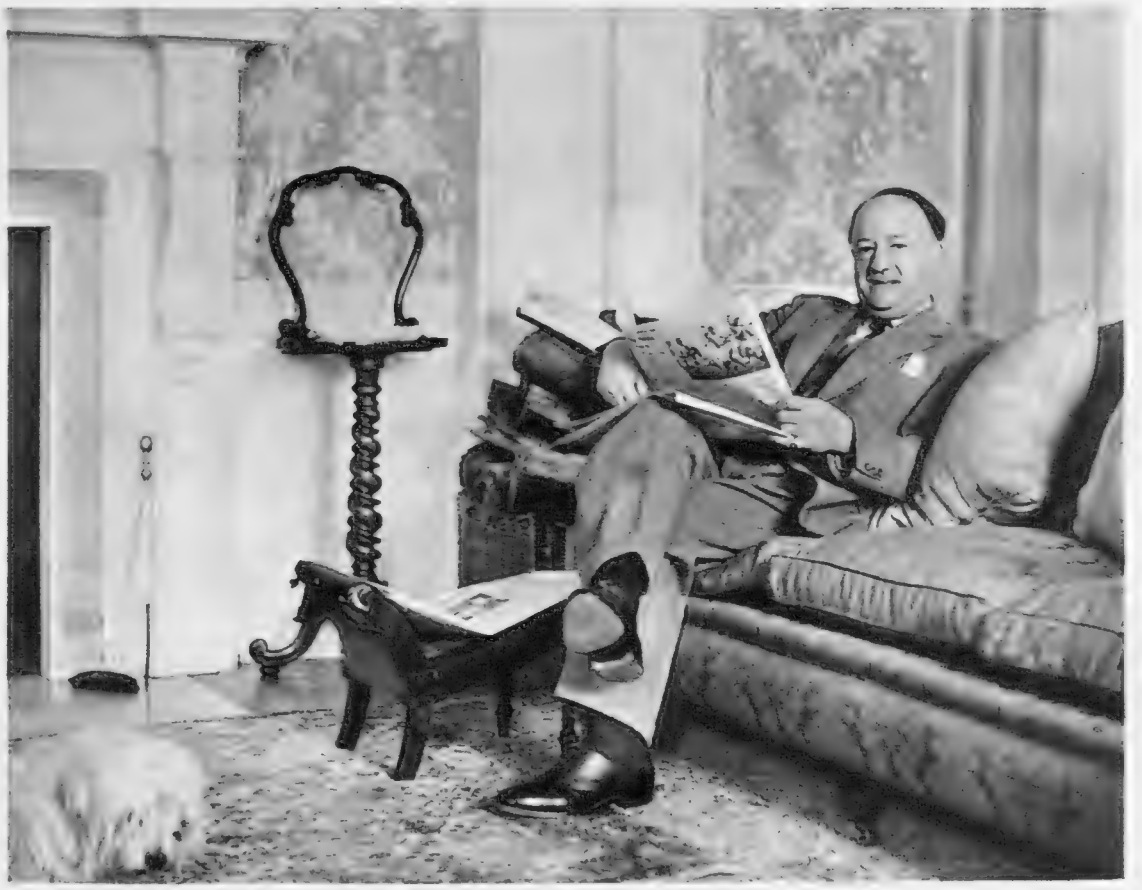
Slogans in the Chinese Press show that China is desperately short of food. Its people are urged to make the fullest use of all forms of wild edible berries and other plants, a scheme known as " eating the mountains." The Chinese economic tragedy is the result of a combination of natural disasters, failures of economic planning and the bitter ideological dispute with the Soviet Union. As a result of the last of these, Russia was reported to have withdrawn its technicians from China, to have pressed for the settlement of huge outstanding bills, and to have refused to extend further credits.

Speaking in the Lower House of Parliament in **Delhi**, Mr. Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, revealed that the Indian-Chinese border dispute had continued unabated. He placed correspondence before the House dealing with the dispute over the last four months. The Chinese, in reply to Indian charges of aggression, accused India of " nibbling at Chinese territory." The latest Indian Note warned China that the Indian Government would " take all necessary measures to safeguard the territorial integrity of India."

In **Tokyo**, the talks between the Japanese and South Korean Foreign Ministers, on resuming normal diplomatic relations between the two countries, ended in failure. The chief point at issue was the Korean claim for compensation for general property destruction by Japan during the Second World War. It was understood that the gap between South Korean demands and Japanese proposals was so large that no hope of agreement seemed possible.

ISRAEL

An attack last week by Israeli forces against certain Syrian military positions on the eastern side of Lake Tiberias (the Sea of Galilee) was claimed in **Tel Aviv** to have been successful in that the positions were destroyed. The aim of the incursion was asserted in **Damascus** to have been an occupation of the border area. The fighting appears to have been fierce and lasted all Saturday night. The Syrians claimed that 200 Israelis and one Syrian were killed; the Israeli version was thirty Syrians and five of their own men. The U.N. Truce Supervision Commission arranged a cease-fire, but tension was still high. The main cause of the conflict was believed to have been the Israeli proposals to pump water from the lake to irrigate the Negev area, which had provoked strong Arab protests. Shots had been exchanged earlier in the month. Support for the Syrian case has been expressed in many Arab States.



Mr. R. A. Butler relaxes at home before taking up his new responsibilities for the Central African Federation

CONGO

The secret talks in **Leopoldville** between M. Adoula, the Prime Minister of the Congolese Central Government and M. Tshombe, the President of Katanga Province, began last Sunday after three days of delay while M. Tshombe waited for M. Adoula to return from a conference of provincial presidents in **Coquilhatville**. Elaborate precautions for M. Tshombe's safety arranged by the U.N. surrounded the talks. The meeting was to discuss the implementation of last December's **Kitona** agreement, at which M. Tshombe ended Katanga's attempt at secession by accepting the authority of the Central Government, an agreement later ratified by the Katanga assembly. A major problem was expected to be the integration of the Katanga Army with that of the Central Government.

Mrs. Kennedy walks with Mr. Nehru on her arrival at the airport of Delhi for her two weeks' tour of India and Pakistan. The traditional garland of welcome had been placed round her neck by Mayor Sham Nath. Thousands lined the ten-mile route along which she drove into the city

King Bhumipol and Queen Sirikit d
Khan of Pakistan, as they driv

Mrs. Kennedy, followed by Mr. John
crosses the stepping-stones in the

hailand, stand in an open car with President Ayub
ve rough Karachi. They had arrived for a State visit

VISITORS IN ASIA AND AFRICA

albraith, the United States Ambassador to India,
n noat outside the U.S. Embassy in the capital of India

The Princess Royal descends the steps below the cross known as " The Stone of Sacrifice " in the Commonwealth War Cemetery near Tobruk, in Libya. During her stay in that country she also visited the Royal Air Force station at El Adem

JOHN CONNELL

DISARMAMENT TALKS AT GENEVA

Few issues in world affairs are more obviously important than that of multilateral disarmament; few are more hedged around with technical difficulties or more clouded with verbal obscurities. There is a jargon of disarmament negotiations, just as there is a jargon of thermonuclear war. The hope of continuing human life is as wrapped around with nonsensical-sounding gobbledegook as is the fear of mass suicide. We —politicians, diplomatists, military experts and journalists—cannot talk or write clearly, because we will not think clearly. I have been reading comment on the disarmament talks, which were resumed at Geneva last week, till my eyes popped. I have ranged over acres of small print, like a distracted father in search of a lost child; and I, too, feel lost and forlorn.

I am not alone, I realise, in this mood. The atmosphere just before and as the Geneva talks began was an odd and rather frightening mixture of guarded pessimism, extreme wariness and something like moral fatigue.

Across this foggy landscape there strode the lean, demurely purposeful figure of the British Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who, just before he set forth for Geneva, observed, as wisely as crisply: " On the question of general disarmament we have not only to decide what arms are to be destroyed and inspect the destruction of those arms, but we have also to make sure that no arms are coming from the factories to replace them." Within this firm statement of fundamental principle it

An Anglo-Russian deal behind America's back? Lord Home and Mr. Gromyko shake hands at Geneva, while Mr. Rusk is looking away from them

is right surely to include the two concepts of a ban on nuclear tests and the eventual destruction of nuclear weapons. If the nations of the world agree to disarm, they must disarm thoroughly and generally. There must be no trickery on any side.

Are the Russians sincere? Let us grant, for the moment, all the plausible arguments of the Soviet apologists about Russia's " justified " suspicions of the West; the Russian official mind is, and has been for generations, obsessively suspicious of the non-Russian world. If we take these suspicions into account, ought we not to admit that the Western nations have pretty strong grounds for mistrust—deep mistrust—of the Soviet Union? Can we, for example, wipe out the memory of that series of 50-megaton explosions last year, which as the *Yorkshire Post* put it: " blew a large hole in the hopes of men of every political persuasion in the world "? And indeed, on a realistic appraisal, why should we expect the U.S.S.R. to be sincere? We have assumed, perhaps a little too early, that because Mr. Khrushchev and his colleagues have recognised that they and we share a fundamental interest in avoiding a thermonuclear war, therefore they—like ourselves—are interested in reaching agreements which will reduce tension, and thus the danger of war, by general limitations on armaments.

This assumption rests on our Western interpretation of the phrase " peaceful co-existence "—one of the most brilliant of all Soviet inventions in the sphere of double-speak. We take it to mean that the nations of the world can, because they want to, live together at peace with one another. No Soviet theoretician can take so unsophisticated a view. To him it means a tactical way of maintaining, with the greatest possible practical pressure, the conflict (which he takes for granted) between the Marxist-Leninist Communist societies and " capitalism."

Every manifestation of Russian external policy is, and always should be recognised to be, an instrument of some kind in this conflict: Gagarin's personal charm as much as his space-flight, cultural exchanges, evidences of economic growth within the Soviet Union, relations with the uncommitted and the under-developed nations—all these are used to further the ultimate political aims of world Communism. The very idea of negotiating about disarmament is thus a weapon, and a fairly formidable weapon at that, because it is a demonstration, on a very high plane, that the balance of thermonuclear terror can be tipped in favour of the Communists. In fact, behind all the double-speak, Russian thinking is surely: " You have frightened us into accepting the fact that a thermonuclear war would destroy us all, Communists as well as non-Communists. But we can play that game, too. Through fear, we can put pressure on you, and make you yield point after point to us."

It is within these terms of reference that Mr. Khrushchev has talked of Britain—and of Western Europe as a whole—as a " hostage." Believing that the long-term aim of world revolution, in the present tactical conditions, can best be promoted by a policy which gives them as commanding a position as possible in international affairs, while retaining all opportunities to embarrass, confuse and disrupt the Western Alliance, the Russians are only too happy to talk long and loosely about disarmament.

The central fact to be grasped, in my view, about the present Geneva discussions—and about their relationship to the whole current list of East-West differences—is that while the Communist leaders want to avoid an " all-out " thermonuclear war, they still wish to attain their aims by retaining the threat of it.

If this diagnosis is correct, the Russian call for " general and complete disarmament under strict international control " is a classic example of double-speak; but it also can be seen as disclosing the depth of the Soviet's real dilemma; while saying that they are anxious to have a system of control, they are compelled to resist any effort towards its practical implementation. Therefore they protest furiously that the Western proposals about control are only a " cover for espionage." For control must mean the establishment of an international, or a supra-national, authority; even for the United States or ourselves this would be bound to imply a transfer of sovereignty on a scale which we both might be reluctant to concede. To the Russians, any such authority can never (in the view of the Russians) be genuinely impartial; it can only be regarded as a fiction, thinly disguising an instrument of nationalistic, imperialistic and class interests.

Last September, the United States and Soviet Governments issued a long, joint and agreed statement on disarmament, which could have been the starting point for this year's discussions. In general, however, it was a massive array of blameless but ponderous platitudes; and it lost—on the point of control—any force or integrity it might have possessed because of flat disagreement about a major issue. A vital sentence (vital in the United States' view, obnoxious in the Russian view) should have followed this declaration:

> " To implement control over and inspection of disarmament, an International Disarmament Organisation, including all parties to the agreement should be created within the framework of the United Nations. This IDO and its inspectors should be assured unrestricted access without veto to all places as necessary for the purpose of effective verification."

The omitted sentence—omitted at the insistence of the Russians —read: " Such verification should ensure that not only agreed limitation or reduction take place but also that retained armed forces and armaments do not exceed agreed levels at any stage."

Why, if the Russians are sincere, should that sentence stick in their throats? When the Foreign Ministers—Lord Home, Mr. Rusk and Mr. Gromyko—were having their preliminary discussions at the beginning of last week, before the full and formal discussions were reopened, it was obvious that this concept of verification was now regarded as crucial; and the Russians had not budged an inch from their position last September.

But in the meantime on other fronts they have maintained and have increased their pressure. There were Vietnam and Laos, whose problems and perplexities I tried to unravel last week; and there was Berlin. At the precise moment one evening last week at which Mr. Gromyko was sitting with Lord Home discussing " verification," new techniques for harassing Allied aircraft on their lawful missions to and from Berlin were being tried out. Cynicism? No, the explanation lies a good deal deeper. It is to be found in the fundamental axioms of Marxist-Leninist philosophy: The Communist mother-church is perpetually militant. Hot or cold, thermonuclear bombs or interference with radar screens, the Soviet Union is for ever at war, and we are the enemy. There may be temporary lulls; there are often quiet sectors; but this is a war in which there is no truce, no armistice, and " disarmament " is a weapon almost as powerful as armament.

In Chile, the Duke of Edinburgh talks to a shopkeeper on a new housing estate in Santiago. The visit was one of the last engagements of Prince Philip in Chile before he left for Paraguay, the seventh country of his tour of South America

PRINCE IN CONVERSATION

At Government House in Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, Prince Philip gestures to the Paraguayan President, General Stroessner (seated right), and the Presidential staff

Mr. Ernest Marples, the Minister of Transport, reaches the top of a ladder on the 116-ft.-high pier of the new bridge now under construction across the River Medway in Kent. The bridge is part of the new 25-mile M2 motorway

The Queen arrives at the Piccadilly Theatre in London to see a performance of *L'Invitation Au Chateau*, by Jean Anouilh, one in a season of French plays. She was accompanied by Monsieur Chauvel, the French Ambassador, Madame Chauvel and Mr. R. A. Butler

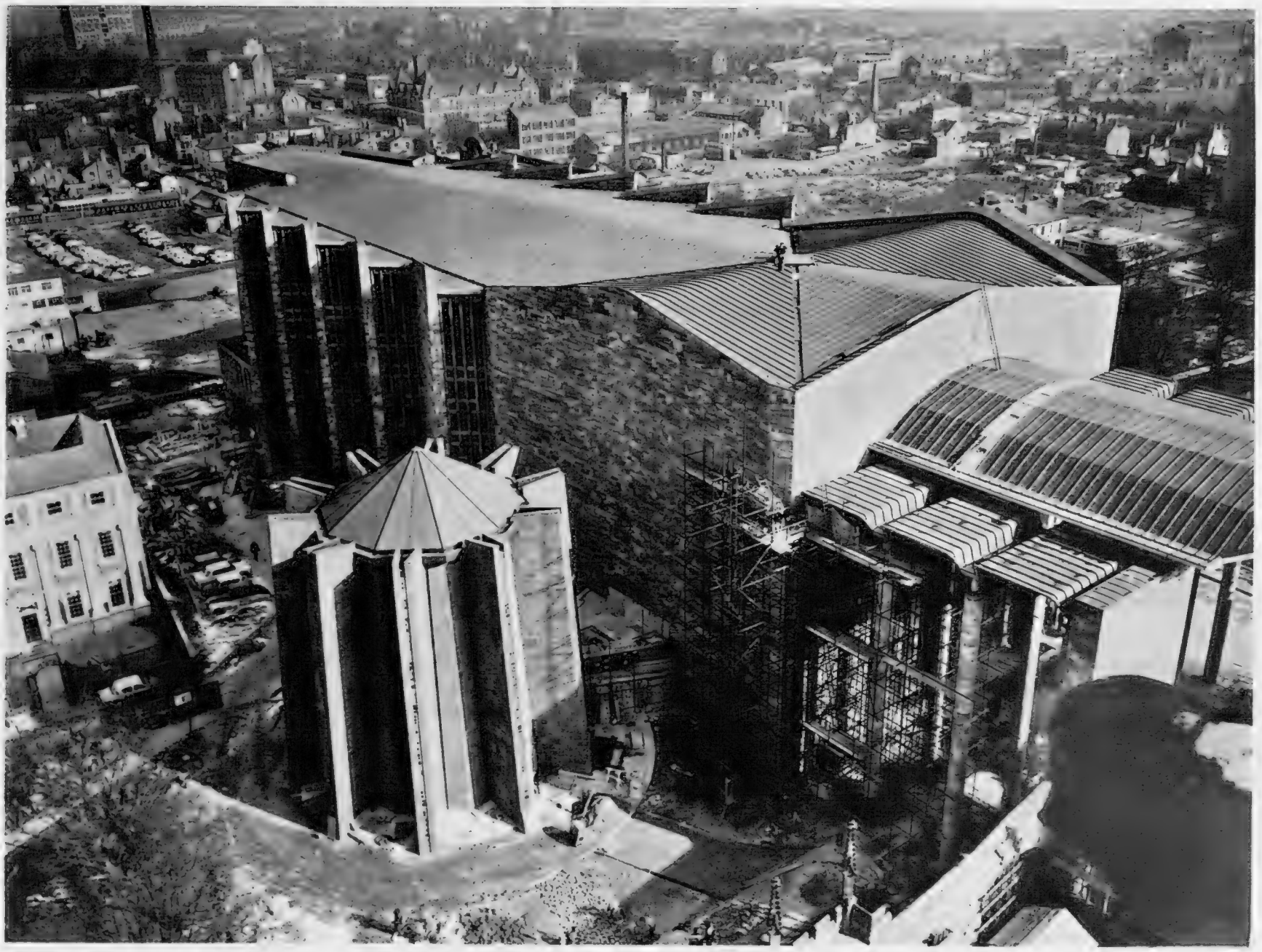
A London Newsletter

13-15, JOHN ADAM STREET, W.C.2.

Staff at the B.O.A.C. Airways Terminal at Victoria sit at the keyboard sets which provide them with information concerning airline reservations from an electronic brain. In this some 4,500 journeys are electronically stored for a period of 140 days each. Automatic reservation methods were introduced because manual methods could not cope with the volume of work

WHY NOT LEAVE IT UNSAID? The Russians accepted the Western proposals for the start of the Geneva Conference. When, amid the catalogue of calamity which is our daily fare of news, I spot what seems at first sight a piece of good news, I like to comment on it. I share with most human beings a total ignorance of what goes on in Mr. Khrushchev's mind, but I have a hunch that Mr. Khrushchev is not anxious for Russia to resume multi-megaton explosions just now, that he knows he has greatly outrun the constable in his expenditure on this form of "defence," and would prefer to spend more on efforts to increase the people's food supplies. If that be so, America's decision to resume tests (and so to re-embark on the armaments death-race) may no doubt be reckoned a successful political tactic, but why rub it in? Why not leave it alone, unsaid? The time for Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Macmillan to throw their hats in the air and glorify their diplomatic shrewdness is not yet. That time will come if and when the Foreign Ministers succeed in opening up the foothills to the summit. At the moment, any Western boast of having got the better of Mr. Khrushchev in a diplomatic engagement can do no good and may throw grit in the wheels of progress at Geneva. Mr. Khrushchev is proud of his successful diplomacy and cannot enjoy any suggestion of a diplomatic setback. He thinks a lot about "face," and I can see no useful purpose served for the West in rubbing in his face the Western statesmen's shrewd diplomatic victory. Why, oh why, at this too early hour did Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Macmillan mix domestic party politics with an event of infinitely more importance to the world, and applaud their own wisdom to their own countries and to the world? They would have been better employed in deciding to hold over their own tests (or facilities for tests) until Geneva is in preliminary session. But I suppose they were as excited and uplifted by a piece of apparently good news as lesser and more ignorant men. Indeed, the Western leaders seem no more able to resist propaganda ripostes than Mr. Khrushchev.

NOT U. General Ne Win (at the moment of writing) is again in power in Burma. As in 1958 he has outed U Nu in the interests of purity in politics and of the welfare of the Burmese. In the 1958 *coup d'état*, U Nu was leading a "clean" faction, while U Ba and U Kyaw led a "stable" faction in a national "coalition." The stable faction was not stable enough; and the clean has proved to be once more not clean enough for General Ne Win. But no doubt U Nu will come back again some day. His popularity is well maintained by propaganda and Ne Win is not an experienced politician on the Burmese pattern—a very intricate business for simple soldiers to engage in. At the moment Ne Win wins and remains Pooh Bah, but one day the U's will have it again and U Nu and U Bo and U Kyaw will resume the struggle for power and constitutional democracy. The Burmese prefer political party warfare to military dictatorship which interferes with a national game or hobby. How empty and hopelessly dull life would be for half the nations of the world today, and their Presses, if they had not the pleasurable expectation of a *coup d'état* or a night of long knives. Perhaps that is why in Britain we sometimes call party politics boring. Our bank robbers and snatchers do what they can in a small way to disturb our institutions,



The new cathedral at Coventry, which is to be consecrated on May 26, nears completion. In the centre foreground is the Chapel of Unity. On the right the porch connecting the new cathedral with the ruins of the old is still under construction

but nothing worth a damn has been done to make political life interesting in these islands for two-and-a-quarter centuries. You might almost judge that the Battle of Worcester knocked civil war out of our system in 1651 and doomed us, thank goodness, to eternal boredom in politics.

TACTFUL GOBBLEDEGOOK. Dr. Hill has explained a mystery of long standing. Invited in the Commons to expunge from his Department's official pudder or gobbledegook the horrid phrase, " detrimental to the visual amenities of the locality," he made it clear at last that all these awful examples of bureaucratic jargon which Sir Ernest Gowers listed in *Plain Words* are not due to a desire to impress, to lack of taste or education, but solely to acute sensibility and human sympathy. Your bureaucrat will go to all lengths to avoid hurting your feelings, and often enough he finds it very hard work to wrap up an unpleasant truth and break it gently to you. That is why, instead of confirming to a war veteran that he is still not entitled to a disability pension, he writes: " The non-compensable evaluation heretofore assigned to you for your Service-connected disability is confirmed and continued." In this tactful and sensitive choice of phrase, it may take one of Parkinson's men a couple of hours to draft a sympathetic reply and sugar a bitter pill; and " detrimental to the visual amenities of the locality " should be regarded as a sensitive euphemism for " likely to make the ugly place you live in still uglier." This explanation throws a much kindlier light on bureaucracy. They are men of feeling, always ready to sacrifice their own reputations as men of taste and education if they can spare you a scintilla of disappointment. Plain English is often painful to read and sometimes is actionable, Dr. Hill thinks. So Whitehall will continue to call a spade " a soil-reversing horticultural instrument," and not a ruddy shovel. We shall still read about " long-term, overall ironing-out of non-essential bottle-necks," and must learn to take comfort from the phrase which means " get things moving."

LOUD REPORTS. I fully share with a *Times* correspondent resentment over the monstrous waste of shareholders' money in the issue of annual company reports in the most expensive way possible in " glorious Technicolor," on embossed paper so thick and glossy as to require a 6d. stamp and to be useful for no other purpose (nowadays) than to conceal the nakedness of the contents. These reports would be no more and no less intelligible to me in plain covers and I would much prefer that any profit accruing to me from the year's trading were ploughed back into the business, if not paid out to me, rather than that they should benefit the paper interests, the P.M.G. and the colour printers. The only suggestion I can offer to shareholders who feel the same way is perhaps worth considering. The coloured covers are no good for scribbling or lighting fires or pipes, but they are admirably adapted for use as washable wallpaper. If you need to redecorate and brighten up a lavatory, for instance, you cannot do better than cut the covers into matching squares and paste on your walls an attractive and amusing patchwork quilt of many pretty colours, using the backs only if you don't want to be reminded of the companies in which you hold stakes. I can assure you that it will be a delightful exercise in " do it yourself " and, if not in all senses economical, it will at least cut your losses. The superlative paper is forced on you at a price which you cannot refuse. A pair of scissors, a pot of paste and a little patience will do the rest. If the lavatory is warmed, there is no better occupation in bad weather, and the result will be hygienic and cheerful.

THE GIRL WHO NEVER GREW UP. Pauline Chase (Mrs. Drummond) has remained in my memory as I saw her first in 1904 in *Peter Pan*, but not then in the title-role. She was cast as " First Twin " in the first production. She was five days younger than I. In the title-role, perhaps she was not as good an actress as Nina Boucicault or Cissie Loftus, although she held the part to general admiration for several years. But as " First Twin " I can testify with my hand on my heart that she was the ideal of one very susceptible young man, then wrestling with Anson on Contracts at Oxford; and as I saw her (more than once) in 1904, so has the picture remained, vivid and utterly enchanting, in my memory for more than half a century. Old men forget, no doubt, but the last memories to fade are probably of their first loves, and I could wish that the clock might be turned back and I could live again that brief and roseate hour and feel again that romantic passion which possessed me when Pauline Chase and her pyjamas first held me in thrall from behind the footlights. I never saw her again, though I am sure Time dealt kindly with her. But perhaps it was better so, lest even a scintilla of " all the charm had fled." It never has, and now it never will.

THE OLD STAGER

A MAJORITY OF ONE: Finding the customs of Tokyo different from those of Brooklyn, Mrs. Jacoby (Rosalind Russell) mimics the actions of her host, Mr. Asano (Alec Guinness)

ENTERTAINMENT

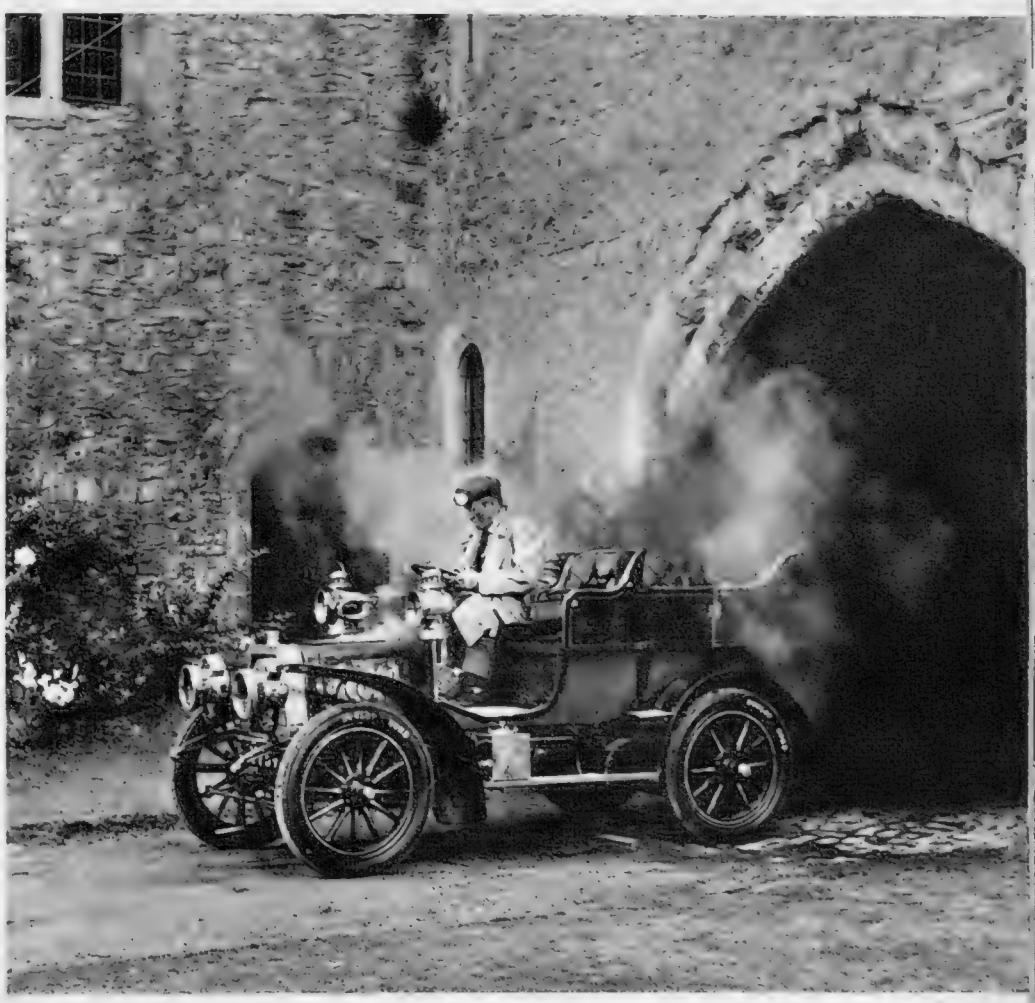
PLAYS INTO FILMS

In the next few weeks London will see three notable examples of the play-turned-film—*A Majority of One*, to be shown shortly by Warner Brothers at the Warner; *Summer and Smoke* to be shown by Paramount at the Plaza from April 12; and *Waltz of the Toreadors*, released by Rank at the Odeon, Leicester Square, from the same date. Perhaps the most striking characteristic of the play-turned-film is that it offers its actors and actresses scope for exuberant display of their art. In *A Majority of One*, one of Broadway's biggest recent successes, there are only two roles of importance, Mrs. Jacoby, a middle-aged Jewish widow from Brooklyn, and Mr. Asano, a rich Japanese industrialist widower, who fall gently in love. They are acted, with great enjoyment, by Rosalind Russell and Sir Alec Guinness, in a simple comedy, described by Warners as "warm-hearted" (*i.e.* sentimental). *Summer and Smoke* is from yet another play by Tennessee Williams, written in his early vein of lyrical romanticism. Set in 1916 in a small town in Mississippi, it tells the story of the repressed love of Anna, daughter of the minister, for the philandering son of the doctor. Directed by Peter Glenville, with some delicate colour photography, the film achieves moments of elegiac sadness and a gripping performance by Geraldine Page. The last of the trio is *Waltz of the Toreadors*, Jean Anouilh's comedy of the love-life of an ageing general. The film stars Peter Sellers, Margaret Leighton and Dany Robin.

SUMMER AND SMOKE: Ever since childhood Anna has been in love with John Buchanan. **Right:** Anna (Geraldine Page) visits John (Laurence Harvey) in the young doctor's surgery

WALTZ OF THE TOREADORS: At a ball in France, Emily (Margaret Leighton) watches her husband, then Major Fitzjohn (Peter Sellers), dance with Ghislaine (Dany Robin)

General Fitzjohn after his retirement gallops with Robert (John Fraser)



The local physician Dr. Grogan (Cyril Cusack) arrives at the General's manor. **Left:** Ghislaine is hooked by a fisherman as she attempts, in a moment of pique, to drown herself in the lake

THE VOICE OF THE COMMON

PAKISTAN

A new constitution providing for a Presidential Republic

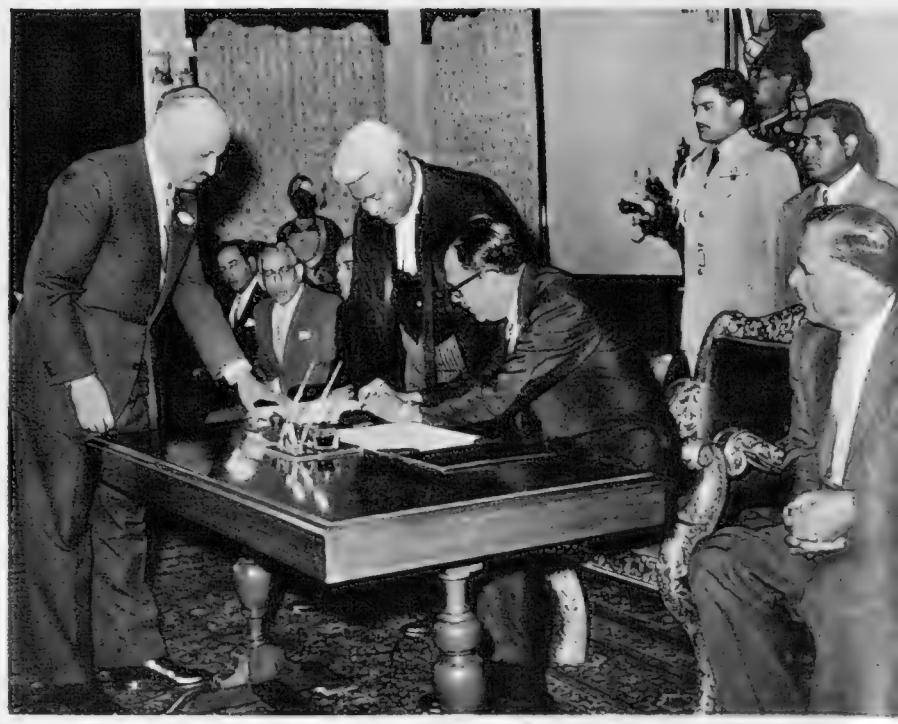
The new Constitution of Pakistan promulgated on March 1, 1962, establishes a Republic under a President, consisting of two provinces, each under a Governor. There will be a National Assembly and two Provincial Assemblies, each consisting of 150 members elected by 80,000 members of an electoral college, themselves elected on the basis of universal suffrage. The National Assembly and each Provincial Assembly will also elect six and five women members respectively. It will be open to women to stand for the general seats.

The President will be elected for a term of five years by 80,000 electors, equally distributed between the two Provinces. The executive authority of the Republic is vested in the President, together with the power and discretion to make ordinances when the Assembly is not in session, which are to be laid before the National Assembly as soon as practicable.

The President will appoint ministers from among persons qualified to be elected to the National Assembly, and Parliamentary Secretaries from the elected members of the National Assembly. If a member of the National Assembly is appointed minister, he will resign his seat. A member of the President's Council of Ministers will have the right to speak and take part in the proceedings of the National Assembly or any of its Committees without the right to vote.

The President is removable from office, on grounds of disability or on impeachment for misconduct or wilful violation of the constitution, by the votes of not less than three-fourths of the total membership of the Assembly. In case such a motion fails to secure the support of half of the total membership, the signatories to the original notice (who shall not be in any case less than one-third of the total membership of the National Assembly) shall cease to be members of the Assembly forthwith.

The legislative authority will be vested in the National Assembly and the President of Pakistan. Dacca will be the principal seat of the National Assembly. There will be at least two sessions of the National Assembly in the year and not more than 180 days shall intervene between the last sitting of the Assembly in one session and its first sitting in the next session. No bill, adopted by the National Assembly, shall become law unless it receives the President's assent. This assent will be assumed, unless his dissent is expressed within thirty days. In case of conflict between the President and the National Assembly on any matter, the President will have the power to refer the question to a referendum among members of the electoral college in the form of a question capable of being answered by a yes or no. The President has the power to dissolve the Assembly, but on dissolving it he would himself have to seek fresh election within 120 days.



President Ayub Khan of Pakistan is seen signing the New Constitution in Karachi. The Chief Justice of Pakistan, Mr. A. R. Cornelius, stands next to the President

Each Province will be under a Governor appointed by the President. Provincial legislatures will each consist of 150 members and five women members elected by the members of the electoral college from the Province and by the members of the Assembly respectively. The legislative authority of Provincial Assemblies will extend to all subjects not mentioned in the Third Schedule appended to the Constitution.

The judiciary will be headed by the Supreme Court consisting of a Chief Justice and as many other judges as may be determined by law. The Chief Justice will be appointed by the President and the other judges will be appointed in consultation with the Chief Justice. The Supreme Court will have original jurisdiction in any dispute between the Central Government and a Provincial Government, or between the two Provincial Governments if, and in so far as, the dispute involves any question, whether of law or fact, on which the existence of a legal right depends, or any question as to the interpretation of the Constitution. The Supreme Court in exercise of this jurisdiction shall pronounce declaratory judgments only. The Supreme Court, however, will not have the power to declare *ultra vires* laws passed by the National Assembly.

There will be a High Court for each province consisting of a Chief Justice and a number of other judges to be determined by law. A judge of a High Court shall be appointed by the President after consultation with the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court, the Governor of the Province concerned and the Chief Justice of the High Court.

No tax shall be levied for the purposes of the Central Government, except by or under the authority of an Act of the central legislature. The annual budget will be prepared by the Presidential cabinet for consideration by the National Assembly. On the taxation side in the budget, distinction will be made between fresh and committed taxation. It will not be open to the legislature to alter any existing tax except on the recommendation of the President and no new tax will be levied without the vote of the legislature. On the expenditure side, charges on the "Central Consolidated Fund" enumerated in the Constitution and expenditure which is not shown in the budget as new expenditure will not be submitted to the vote of the legislature, though they can be discussed.

The Constitution incorporates sixteen Principles of Lawmaking and twenty-one Principles of Policy. It declares unconditionally that no law should be repugnant to Islam; that all citizens should be equal before the law and be dealt with in accordance with law; and that parity between Provinces shall be maintained in all spheres of Central Government "as early as practicable." It grants Freedom of Expression and Freedom of Association subject only to such over-riding consideration as security of the State, public order, morality and decency, administration of justice, and maintenance of friendly relations with foreign countries.

The old political parties will remain under the present ban until this is repealed by the Central Legislature. The elections under the new constitution are expected to be held early in June and the National Assembly will meet soon after.

Sir John Macpherson, a former Governor-General of Nigeria, talks to Miss F. Whiley, a teacher from Ndola, in Northern Rhodesia, and Mr. T. Clark, a teacher from Wellington, New Zealand, at a reception for more than a hundred Commonwealth teachers attending a two-day conference in London. Lady Macpherson is on the right

The items in "The Voice of the Commonwealth" are contributed and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Editor of "The Sphere"

WEALTH

BOOK REVIEWS

Two contrasting studies of Nigeria

The arbitrary nature of boundary divisions in the " Scramble for Africa " at the end of the nineteenth century is one of the points which emerges clearly from Michael Crowder's THE STORY OF NIGERIA (Faber and Faber. 21s.). Goldie, one of the most important promoters of the British interest along the Niger, once told a newspaper interviewer that if it had not been for the reaction in France against colonial enterprises after the disaster in Indo-China which caused the fall of Jules Ferry (the nearest equivalent in France to Joseph Chamberlain), the British might well have been pushed out of Nigeria. Thus did the future of one of Africa's most important states depend on a minor reverse to French troops near Tonkin. African history at this time contains many such cases of the fortuitous, all of which were historically vital; one has only to think of the French reverse in the Sudan after Fashoda in 1898.

Mr. Crowder, who for the past two and a half years has edited *Nigeria* magazine in Lagos, draws attention to many other interesting facts in this well-planned concise book, which covers the whole of Nigerian history from its misty origins, through the early kingdoms, the rise and fall of the slave trade, the reasons for British intervention and the rise of African nationalism, to the coming of independence. Many characters stand out; Lugard, the best kind of " empire-builder," pacifying the northern emirs and establishing the foundations of British administration; Usman dan Fodio, the elderly Muslim scholar who precipitated a Holy War in 1804 which established the Fulani ascendancy over the North; Samuel Crowther, the highly intelligent freed slave who became Bishop of the Niger; the able kings of the coast states like the Pepple dynasty and King Jaja of Opobo; and modern leaders such as " Zik " and " Awo."

Some of these figures also pop up in NIGERIA FREE, by Harry Williams (Robert Hale Ltd., 21s.). This is a much more rambling book than Mr. Crowder's, but equally interesting. The author is an experienced traveller in the Commonwealth, and he found much encouragement for the future of the Commonwealth in what he saw in Nigeria. He sprinkles his historical information while taking the reader on a floridly written geographical tour beginning at Lagos (" Fascinating, expanding, pullulating ") and ending at Kano (" As old as time ").

Both books quote Mungo Park, who in 1796, exploring from the north-west, came across " The long-sought-for majestic Niger, glittering in the morning sun, as broad as the Thames at Westminster, and flowing slowly to the east." These words could be taken to symbolise the impression of the strength and latent possibilities of modern independent Nigeria which the two works convey.

M. K. Whiteman

The new building of the Australian Mutual Provident Society towers over one of Sydney's main thoroughfares. The twenty-six-storey office block is the tallest in the country. It took only twenty-one months to complete. One of the novel features of the construction is the use of nearly 300,000 gallons of sea water from Sydney Harbour to heat the building in winter and to cool it in summer. The heat of the sea water is trapped and transferred to other plant to heat the building. In summer the refrigeration system uses a heat pump. This building is one of the most outstanding of the many new blocks which are currently being constructed in Sydney

Mr. John Profumo, Secretary for War, chats with members of the advance party of Gurkha troops at the airport at Lyneham, in Wiltshire. The 63rd Gurkha Infantry Brigade group is to become part of the Strategic Reserve, stationed at Tidworth, in Wiltshire. The rest of the group of 1,700 will be arriving in England soon

The entrance to the tunnel on the Cahilly Expressway in Sydney, Australia, which was opened recently. The tunnel links the two sections of the motorway, which has been designed to provide quick access from the centre of Sydney to the eastern suburbs. The tunnel passes under the Domain, which is Sydney's equivalent to London's Hyde Park

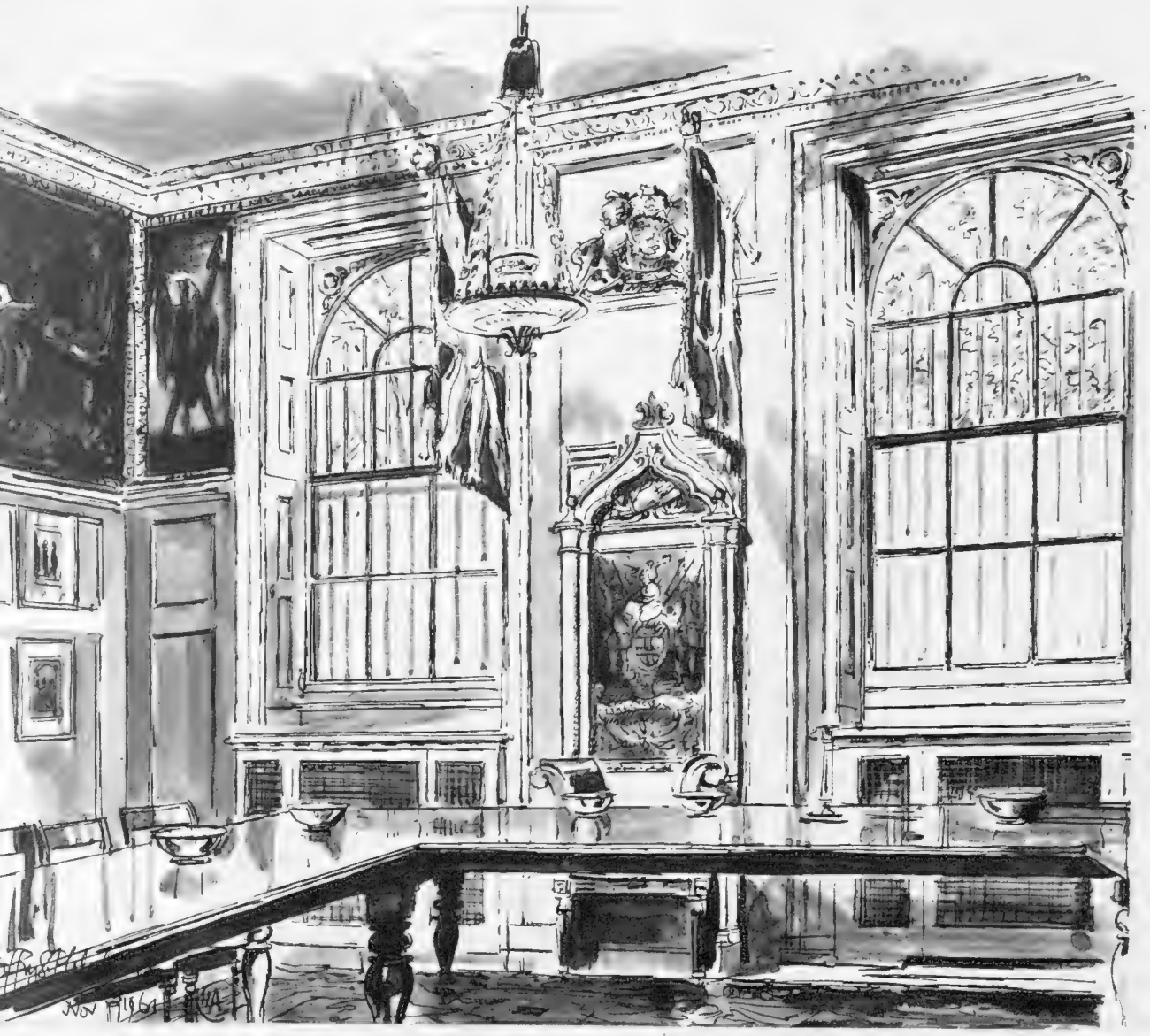
ARMOURY HOUSE

Headquarters of Britain's oldest regiment

Drawings by Geoffrey S. Fletcher

The exterior of Armoury House, the headquarters of the Honourable Artillery Company in the City of London

The Long Room is the members' reading room. It is



The Court Room. In the chair the President presides over the annual meetings of the Court of Assistants of the H.A.C.

The Honourable Artillery Company is the oldest British regiment and the senior and most celebrated of the units in the Territorial Army. Its pikemen, in their traditional helmets and armour, and its infantrymen in modern uniform, are an essential part of important ceremonies in the City of London. Its gunners have the privilege of firing salutes at the Tower of London on State occasions.

The precise date of the origin of the H.A.C. is not known. In 1537 Henry VIII granted a charter to an already existing body of citizen archers that they should be known as the Fraternity or Guild of Artillery of Longbows, Crossbows and Handguns. This became " the Gentlemen of the Artillery Garden " which in due course was shortened to " The Artillery Company." The word Honourable was first prefixed in 1685 and officially confirmed by Queen Victoria.

There is no contradiction in an Artillery Company including an Infantry battalion because the historic meaning of the term artillery is " any missile weapon." The H.A.C. today also has an Officer Training Wing.

Armoury House, the H.A.C. headquarters, is in the City Road in the City of London. It is a historic building in itself and contains abundant

the room in which reunion dinners are regularly held

evidence of the distinction of the regiment it houses. The present building is the second to be occupied by the H.A.C. on this site and was finished in 1735. The main part remains virtually unaltered. Wings were added in 1828.

One approaches Armoury House by way of the Artillery Ground or Garden, an open space used as a training ground by the Company for 300 years. In the centre there is a grassed sports pitch. Inside the entrance to the House, there was originally the drill hall. When a new drill hall was constructed at the back of the building in 1862, the old drill hall was converted into an entrance hall and two rooms, the Queen's Room and the Ante Room. The finely wrought-iron gates which shut the old drill hall off from the rest of the house are still in the position where they were placed in 1745, the gift of the then Lord Mayor, Sir Richard Hoare, an ancestor of the present Lord Mayor.

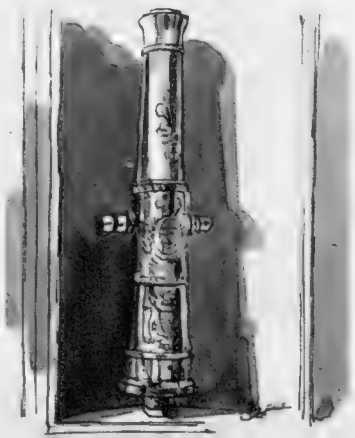
The wide staircase leads up past the War Memorial windows and the Rolls of Honour of the South African War and the two World Wars. On the landing is an ancient stone mark called a "rover," one of a number used by the Company for archery practice until late in the eighteenth century. The stones stretched from the Artillery Ground to Islington Common.

On the first floor the Long Room, with its five large windows, is at the front. Its atmosphere stresses that the Company is not only a proud military unit. It is also a select club. In the Long Room members can read and write surrounded by several Royal portraits and numerous historic relics. Among the flags is the Stars and Stripes, a reminder that over 300 years ago some members of the Company who emigrated to America founded the H.A.C. of Massachusetts.

Another splendid room is the Court Room, late eighteenth century in its furnishings. It is used for meetings of the Court of Assistants, who are the governing body of the Company in civilian and financial matters, and its Committees. The chair used by the President at the Annual Meeting, which elects the Court, was purchased in 1781.

The social, club atmosphere is again very apparent in the Sutling Room, as the members' bar is called. Beyond is the dining-room which many members use for lunch. Off parade, all ranks mix freely together. Armoury House represents both discipline and democracy.

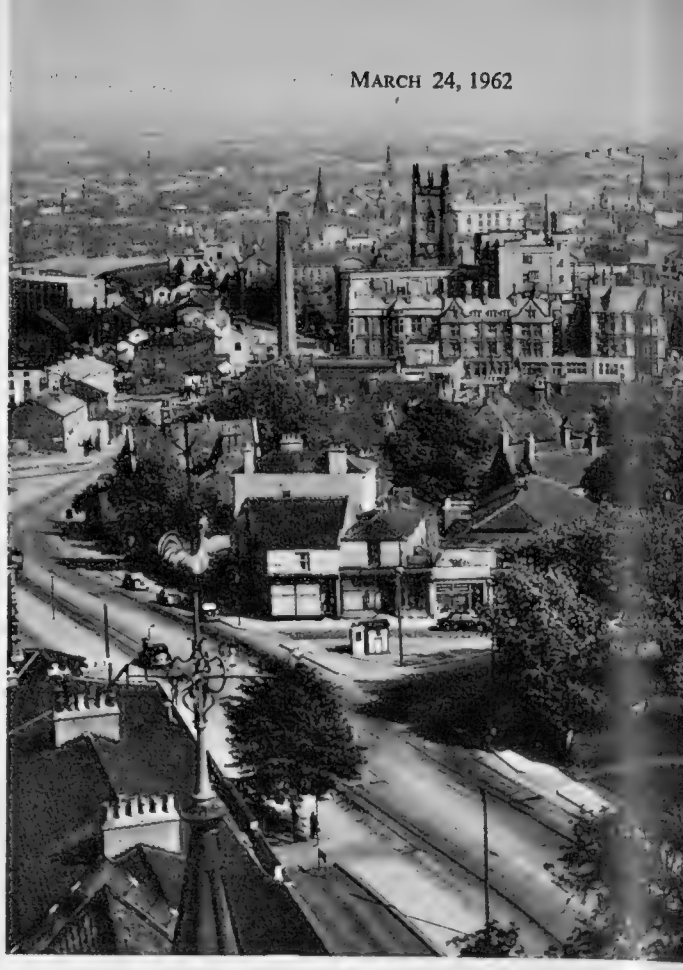
Helmets and weapons in the Pikemen's armoury. **Below left:** A late eighteenth-century brass cannon and **right:** A "rover"



BETWEEN LONDON AND YORKSHIRE

By **JOHN STEEL**

"The Master Cutler," which provides the quickest rail service between London and Sheffield, is a Pullman train



A general view of the City of Sheffield from the University

There are two railway services between London and Sheffield. One runs on Midland Region from St. Pancras to Sheffield Midland station, the other on Eastern Region from King's Cross to Sheffield Victoria. The latter provides the faster trains, of which the best-known is probably "The Master Cutler," which consists of diesel-drawn Pullman coaches with limited accommodation.

The "up" Cutler sets off early in the morning from Sheffield and reaches London just after 10 a.m. The "down" departs from King's Cross at 7.20 in the evening. In both directions the journey takes 2¾ hours. There are other expresses on this line, including "The West Riding," which also serves Leeds. All are examples of British Railways' recognition of the importance of speedy transport for businessmen between London and the north.

By whichever route one travels to and from Sheffield, the train passes through interesting country. For example, the passenger in "The Master Cutler," however busy he may be, should spare some time to look out of the window once the express is clear of King's Cross.

Hadley Wood is an example of comparatively recent trends in railway station architecture and tunnel construction. The areas of Hatfield and Welwyn offer a contrast between old and new. Hatfield House is one of the finest and most important Jacobean mansions and is the home of the Marquess of Salisbury. It contains many priceless relics of Queen Elizabeth I whom the early Cecils served.

One leaves Hertfordshire soon after Hitchin and passes through Bedfordshire and Huntingdon (birthplace of Cromwell) to Peterborough. The Cathedral, which can be seen from the railway, dominates the city and is an example of several styles of architecture from the twelfth century onwards. Peterborough depends a great deal on its engineering industry and in the neighbourhood, as the traveller will observe, there are brickworks.

Coming to Lincolnshire, Grantham is a place which compels attention because of the tall spire, 280 ft. high, of the Parish Church of St. Wulfram. This market town existed at the time of Domesday Book. Isaac Newton was educated at the Grammar School.

There is a run through Nottinghamshire before finally the train comes to Yorkshire and Sheffield. Whether the passenger has been deep in business papers or enjoying the view of the ever-changing countryside, he will have been sure of excellent service from the members of the staff on "The Master Cutler."

"The West Riding" is another train serving Sheffield. **Right:** Mr. Williamson, Sheffield Victoria's stationmaster

Mr. Birks, head chef on "The Master Cutler"

On the way to Sheffield: Hadley Wood station, with new and old tunnels beyond; the viaduct at Welwyn; the new goods sheds and depot at Peterborough

Moorland in the countryside surrounding Sheffield

BRIAN VESEY-FITZGERALD

THE FAME OF SHEFFIELD

Sheffield stands at the confluence of five small rivers; the Sheaf (which gives the city its name), the Loxley, the Rivelin, the Porter and the Don. The original town stood on a hill, now the centre of the city, more or less in the middle of a basin completely encircled by hills. It must, when Mary Queen of Scots was imprisoned in the castle overlooking the Don, have been a beautiful place. Defoe visited Sheffield when it was still a town on a hill in the middle of a basin surrounded by greater hills and records that the houses were built of stone, but looked dark and black by reason of the continual smoke from the forges which were always at work. And he went from Sheffield to Rotherham, jogging along a pleasant country road. But now the city has spread outwards and spilled over the hills, so that today a stranger finds it difficult (I admit that I have no idea at all) where Sheffield ends and Rotherham begins, for the two are linked by factories and rows of terrace houses. Now, if you stand on the crest of one of the hills, but still in Sheffield, you look down on a great basin filled with houses and factories, churches and chapels and shops, a maze of streets—and smoke. Let me quote:

> Yorkshiremen are proud of Sheffield's fame, but they only visit the city when necessary, for of all modern industries steel works blacken and devour their surroundings most. The district of Hallamshire, in which they are centred, is a vast area of towns and villages running into one another along the roads to Sheffield. The chimneys of the works and forges turn out an almost continuous stream of filthy smoke which spreads first into a thick cloud and then dissipates to fall gently to the ground in flakes of soot. The inky blackness coated on the walls gives an iron hardness to the buildings, as if they had been enamelled.

That was not written by a southerner, but by Ella Pontefract, who was Yorkshire through and through. It sounds pretty grim, doesn't it? And, walking from either of the stations through dingy streets to the centre, standing on Lady Bridge, which is almost in the centre, and looking at the grimy buildings lining the Don, "the shelving slimy River Don," you might be forgiven for thinking this the ugliest of Yorkshire industrial towns.

Well, it is no good pretending that Sheffield is beautiful. I doubt if even the most patriotic of its citizens would go so far as to claim that. But I like Sheffield very much. Each time I go, and for one reason or another I go quite frequently, I am impressed anew by its character, its individuality. Despite its size and importance, despite its enormous ceaseless bustling activity, it somehow always manages to seem a little remote: in Yorkshire maybe, but not quite of Yorkshire.

This district of Yorkshire is known as Hallamshire. It is not a shire: but it is different enough, distinct enough, to justify the title. Even the accent is different: not quite Yorkshire, not quite Midland. Now, I do not know the precise boundaries of Hallamshire, but that does not matter. What matters, what is important, is that the countryside around seals off, as it were, a district that is different. To the north a belt of agricultural land divides the steel country from the coal country, though here and there the two overlap.

To the east, also, there is agricultural land, but this is a lower, more gentle, countryside running down to the Dukeries and the great plain that extends to Lincoln and beyond; a pleasant countryside with some notably graceful churches, such as those at Thorpe Salvin and Laughton-en-le-Morthen. To the west, above Bradfield and Bolsterstone, indeed from Penistone southwards and westwards, there is a vast stretch of high, cold moorland, which merges into the Peak district and sweeps round to the Derbyshire Dales. This is wild open country and very thinly populated. I suppose that some might say that it has been spoilt, because in many of the valleys there are now reservoirs.

Certainly the reservoirs have taken some life from the land and must, when they were formed, have brought tragedy, too. But if they have taken life from the land, they have also brought life. It was on a Sheffield reservoir, and no great distance from the centre of the city, that, some years ago, I saw an osprey fishing. Needless to say, that bird was shot; presumably some ardent fisherman thought the competition too great. However, it does show that this is the sort of country, and these are the sort of reservoirs, to attract the unusual. I am all for the reservoirs. In any case, they preserve the whole district as open country.

Some of the character of Sheffield and of its people undoubtedly springs from this surrounding country. It may seem ridiculous, but there has always seemed to me, despite the factories and the forges and the grime, despite the rhythmic pounding hammers, the very pulse of the city, to be something of the air of an agricultural town about Sheffield. I do not mean in market days or anything like that (I do not even know that Sheffield has a market, though I feel sure that it has), but in the attitude of the people. There is something of the same calm, slow, strength, the same certainty of expression, in the steel-worker that you find in the agricultural labourer.

That may just be fancy. But there can be no doubt that the people of Sheffield draw strength from that high wild country to the west. Most of my visits to Sheffield are at weekends. Nothing has impressed me more than the trek out of it on Sunday morning: cyclists, hikers, boys and girls, middle-aged men and women, family parties. The wild country is on the doorstep, much of it within a day's walk. Some of it, over the Derbyshire border, is famous for its beauty. Some of the rest of it is among the most beautiful country in England.

Ruskin (or was it Palmerston? No one seems to be quite sure) described Sheffield as "a dark picture in a golden frame." And certainly the frame is beautiful. And, you know, come to think of it, Sheffield *is* beautiful; at night. I remember walking down from High Neb late on an autumn night and seeing the maze of twinkling lights below me and the glare of furnaces, reflected high on clouds. Sheffield can put on illuminations before which Blackpool's pale.

(*See also pages* 488-491)

SPRING IN THE AIR

A swan takes off from the surface of the River Itchen, near Winchester in Hampshire. **Below:** Gambolling in the sun at Whipsnade Zoo, a lamb flings its heels in the air, while its mother, a Four-Horned sheep, remains impassive. Four-Horned sheep have been domesticated in English parks for some centuries

One of the R.A.F.'s new AW. 660 Argosy tactical transports is photographed in flight from the loading bay of another of these freighter aircraft. The Argosy entered service with the R.A.F. when nine were handed over last week to 114 Squadron, the first Transport Command unit to be equipped with the aircraft. Three Argosy squadrons will be based at Benson in Oxfordshire, the home of the Queen's Flight. In all fifty-six of these freighters are on order for Transport Command. The Armstrong Whitworth 660 Argosy has "clam-shell" rear doors to facilitate rapid loading and unloading. As a freighter it can carry up to 29,000 lb., or as a transport sixty-nine fully equipped troops or forty-eight stretchers

THE R.A.F.'S NEW MILITARY TRANSPORT

At the R.A.F. base at Benson, Oxfordshire, an Argosy flies in over its companions. **Right:** Three jeeps and their trailers about to be loaded through the aircraft's rear doors

TRAVEL

THE EASTERN TYROL

By **GORDON COOPER**

The easternmost part of Tyrol, remains wholly isolated from the Province of Tyrol in Austria, as result of the partition of 1919, and has no common border with it. It is separated from the rest of Austria by high mountain ranges, with the exception of a gap on the eastern side, along which a railway runs from Spittal (Carinthia) to Lienz, the only town of any size in East Tyrol. This railway then continues across the Italian frontier, to reach Fortezza, on the Brenner line between Innsbruck and Bolzano—the easiest approach; but by far the most scenic way of coming to this corner of Austria is *via* the Grossglockner road from Zell am See, a bus journey taking nine hours, including a couple of hours' halt at Franz Josefs Hoehe, the climax of the journey, with its view of the enormous icy stream of the Pasterze, one of the most impressive alpine scenes.

In Lienz I lodged most comfortably in the Hotel Post—it has been in the hands of the Eck family for 900 years—while the Hotel Traube can also be recommended. Both houses stand in the main square. The town itself has not much of interest to offer: the Egger-Lienz Museum and the Gothic Parish Church are worth noting, while the nearby Celtic and Roman ruins of Aguntum will appeal to the archæologist.

The chief tourist attraction of Lienz is that it lies at the juncture of four valleys, all of them full of scenic beauties and all very mountainous. The river Isel cuts across the province almost diagonally, and the upper part of its valley, known as the Virgental, is particularly attractive and an excellent centre for walks and climbing excursions. To reach this valley, you travel first along the broad Iseltal to Matrei, a pleasant resort with a good inn—the Rauter—thence the road climbs steeply to Virgen, from which this part of the Isel valley takes its name, still higher to Obermauern (interesting church), and Prägraten, a pleasant village with several inns and guest-houses. A short distance on is Hinterbichel, a tiny hamlet and the end of the valley; it is a true escapist spot. Here the famous Vienna Choirboys' College spend their summer holiday, providing visitors with an opportunity of listening to their singing. You can stay in this village for about a pound a day. On Sundays, an impressive open-air church service is held on the mountainside.

The valley is narrow at this point and is well-sheltered on all sides, while the countryside beyond takes you through wild and beautiful country. To the north, for instance, a side valley carves its way to the world of ice and snow, the expanse of converging glaciers surrounded by the panorama of the Venediger range.

A hut belonging to the Austrian Alpine Club provides welcome refreshment, especially for the energetic who wish to continue to the Defregger House, perhaps to spend the night there before making the ascent of the Gross Venediger.

In my own opinion, an outstanding attraction of East Tyrol is that you make your own discoveries there. Prices are low, while the standard of hospitality and friendliness is unexcelled in Europe. I would like you, for instance, to visit Kals in the Kalstertal, a little village, a friendly alpine spot amidst a rather melancholy countryside, but with breath-taking views. It is also a first-class starting point for tours into the Grossglockner and Schober groups.

Again, there is Sillian, the highest market town in Tyrol, which lies in the Pustertal (west of Lienz). It is a sleepy place on the road to the Dolomites with opportunities for attractive excursions. There are also two branching side-roads: one to the north up the Villgraten Valley to Innervillgraten, the starting point for many excursions and climbs in the Defereggen group; the other diverges in a south-easterly direction through a very twisting road along the Lesach Valley, bringing you to Obertilliach, St. Lorenzern and into Carinthia. Motorists should inquire first about road surfaces before setting out on such a trip.

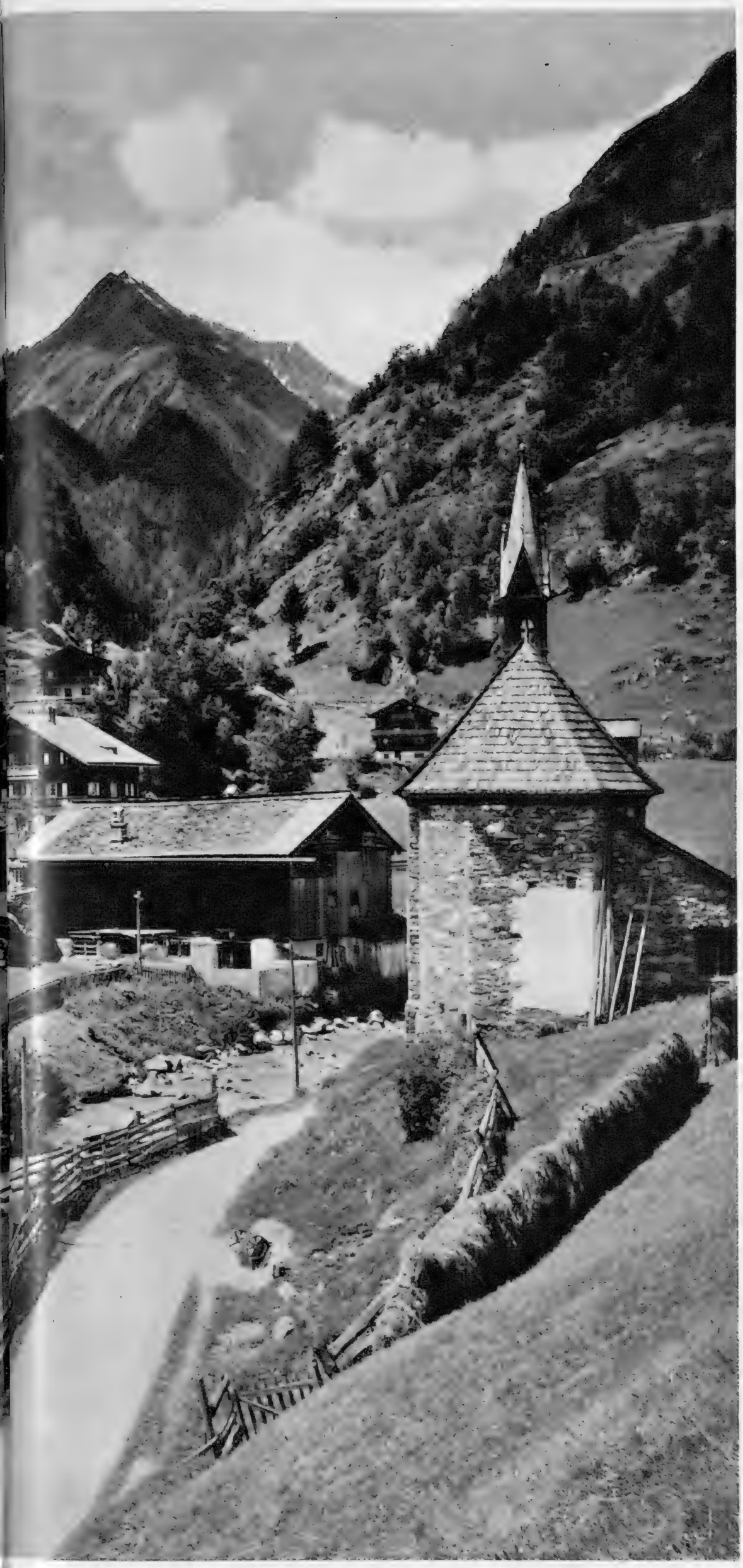
Another pleasant resort, with several hotels, is Bad Iselsberg, a health resort surrounded by woods, which lies on the Grossglockner road and not far from the internationally famous mountain village of Heiligenblut. This latter village contains in its Parish Church a magnificent carved altar and a beautiful tabernacle, where, according to legend, the Sacred Blood is preserved. In this way the village received its name.

An excellent time to visit East Tyrol is during the low season. At a time when the sharp autumn weather has already come to the high valleys and when quiet and solitude reign on the alp pastures, it is the valley floors that for weeks to come still preserve a magic splendour and a mild climate inviting the visitor to linger. The orchards in the valley and on the slopes which used to delight the eye with their spring blossoms now shine forth in their splendid autumn garb. The leaves with their tints ranging from green through dark red to fiery yellow remind one of the scenery and orchards of South Tyrol. The fruit-laden trees are resplendent in the warm sunshine which fills the fertile valleys. To the south there is a magic glow on the pinnacles and crags of the Lienz Dolomites. Autumn in East Tyrol is also characterised by continuous fine weather and a blue sky prevailing until the end of October.

For further information, apply to the Austrian State Tourist Department, 219 Regent Street, W.1.

A street scene in Lienz, in the Tyrol

The tiny village of Hinterbichel is situated at the end of th



...hergental, the upper part of the valley of the Isel

An inn at Virgen, in the Tyrol

AIR SERVICES AND INSURANCE POLICIES

A quick visit to the Arctic Circle for a sight of the midnight sun is possible by taking a special excursion by plane from Oslo to Bodo. You leave the capital in the evening, have supper at midnight in Bodo, and return the following morning after a scenic flight past the Arctic Circle. The jaunt costs £28 10s. inclusive and can be booked through S.A.S. or any travel agent.

Similar short excursion flights have been arranged from Oslo and Copenhagen to view the fjords. Prices of these vary according to whether you wish to stay away for one or two nights, or what class of accommodation you require.

The Spanish Costa del Sol is usually reached by flying to Gibraltar and taking a connecting coach service to the resorts. Since, however, Torremolinos and the neighbourhood have become so very popular, BEA will operate from April 1 a twice-weekly Viscount night tourist flight to Malaga on Fridays and Sundays, returning on Mondays and Saturdays, return fares from £39 14s. Coaches will connect at the airport for Torremolinos, Fuengirola and Marbella.

This summer BEA, in conjunction with Olympic Airways, will operate the first ever non-stop service between London and Athens, leaving London every day at 1.40 p.m. and arriving in Athens at 6.10 p.m. Hitherto planes have broken the journey at Rome. Comets will be used, thus ensuring a flying time of only three-and-a-half hours. The prospect of travelling to Greece in an afternoon is a very attractive one and will encourage many new holidaymakers to sun themselves in the islands of the Aegean.

Have you ever heard of a Pluvius policy? This rain insurance is available for some ninety-five resorts in the United Kingdom. The most popular variation is the one where you can claim if one-tenth of an inch of rain falls between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. while you are on holiday. Costs average about 12s. 6d. a week, depending on the place, and up to £2 a day would be paid in the event of a claim. Similar policies on a twenty-four-hour basis are also available on the Continent. The amount of rain which must fall before you can make a claim under this policy varies but the premium is standard at 2s. in the pound. Details can be obtained through travel agents, insurance brokers or insurance companies or agents.

Another insurance which is not generally known is the cover which can be provided for personal money when travelling or on holiday. This includes cash, bank or currency notes, cheques, travel tickets, travellers' cheques, except Cooks', which need no such insurance. Some insurance companies offer policies at a premium of 7s. 6d. for one person and 5s. for every additional member of the family travelling together. The sum insured is £100 for each individual. The only snags are that the first £2 10s. of any claim is not covered, nor any shortages due to "error or omission" nor, worst of all, depreciation in value. All losses must be reported to the police within twenty-four hours of discovery.

W. D. C. C.

BOOKS

MORE ABOUT SHAKESPEARE

Two books on facets of an ever-fascinating subject; about Yorkshire, Eskimos and Laurel and Hardy; this week's fiction

Somewhere an industrious man is said to have made a list of all the books which had been written about Shakespeare, and it is also said that this earnest compiler was then taken away, kindly but firmly, to recover from a severe nervous breakdown. What a relief, then, that when one opens the latest volume in the probably interminable series, one should find its author, in this case Mr. Hugh Ross Williamson, declaring that it is "the outcome of a lifetime's mounting irritation with academic tomes which have nothing to do with Shakespeare but only with the Shakespeare Industry." THE DAY SHAKESPEARE DIED (Michael Joseph. 21s.) has, indeed, an original theme, for the author sees the great man primarily as a Catholic actor-playwright and examines his life principally from the aspect of his relation with God. This, then, is not only the book of an historian but of a theologian, who is writing about "the greatest of Englishmen" from his own chosen point of view.

THE CASE FOR SHAKESPEARE'S AUTHORSHIP OF "THE FAMOUS VICTORIES" (Redman. 21s.) is a spirited argument by an American professor, Dr. Seymour M. Pitcher, in defence of the theory that this sixteenth-century playscript was, in fact, the work of Shakespeare and one of his earliest efforts. Ingenious reasoning and some energetic detective work among old sources.

To say of a writer that he or she is consistent may be taken as faint praise, but it must be said of Miss Phyllis Bentley, who has written her autobiography in O, DREAMS, O DESTINATIONS (Gollancz. 25s.), that it is one of her finest qualities as an author that the admirably high standard of her sincerity, her compassion and her understanding of her fellow Yorkshiremen does remain at a consistent level. Yorkshire, where she grew up ("we were most admirably brought up," she writes of her parents), remains her home and in more than topographical sense. It bred her, gave her the sorrows and joys of early experience and has always been her fount of inspiration. In this candid, thoughtful, beautifully mannered book, Phyllis Bentley is revealed as a writer, a thinker and, often, a woman of action, part of the very fabric of her much-loved country.

Mr. Peter Freuchen's BOOK OF THE ESKIMOS (Barker. 25s.) contains, as we are told, everything that the great Danish explorer thought was worth knowing about the strange people of the Far North. It is also, in less forbidding and encyclopædic terms, a long and never tedious book of delights, mirroring the author's perpetual zest, his questing spirit and the humour which brightened and enlivened so much of his work and, one is able to imagine, his life. I found it enchanting as much for the portrait of the man which emerges from the pages as for the very real authority and insight with which he was gifted.

JOYCE GRENFELL, with her accompanist William Blezard, in her solo programme at the Theatre Royal, Haymarket. She started her short season last week

There could scarcely be a greater contrast between the last book and Mr. John McCabe's study of that inimitable pair of comedians, MR. LAUREL AND MR. HARDY (Museum Press. 21s.), in which the career of these splendid fun-makers is faithfully followed and the essence of their comedy analysed with the greatest good sense. Hardy is dead now and Laurel a "serene seventy," but their films still appear from time to time, for which your reviewer, among thousands of others, is deeply grateful.

Russia after forty-three years of revolution is the theme of Mr. Maurice Hindus's impressive new book, HOUSE WITHOUT ROOF (Gollancz. 30s.). Russian-born himself and the chronicler of the Soviet Union from outside its confines, Mr. Hindus has returned there many times, his latest visit taking place after Stalin's death. In this volume he reports on the immense changes and the development he has observed, and helps the reader to place the revolution itself in its proper perspective; its relationship not so much to Marxism as to the history of Russia itself.

One novel from England is our only representative on this week's list. Mr. Angus Hall's LOVE IN SMOKY REGIONS (Constable. 16s.) is freshly written, as becomes a first novel by a young writer, perky, even cheeky, and occasionally extremely outspoken. His scene is unfashionable London, and the less fashionable parts of a provincial town, a cut above the sordid—except occasionally in behaviour—and full of vitality. Mr. Hall writes with considerable gusto and his book is as readable as young leaves are green.

DON'T SPEAK TO STRANGERS (Macmillan. 13s. 6d.), by Miss G. R. McCallum, is another first novel, this time from Australia: a touching, even poignant story about a little boy who suffers from shock after shock of

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ZIONIST FIGHTER

The autobiography of Norman Bentwich

Norman Bentwich was engaged from his youth in the long battle for the re-establishment of a Jewish national home in Palestine. He was an officer in the British Army which delivered Palestine from the Turks, and later he was Attorney-General in the Mandatory Government under Lord Samuel. At a still later date this steadfast man of affairs held for two decades the chair of International Relations at the new Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Zionism has had few more staunch fighters than Norman Bentwich; but his autobiography, MY SEVENTY-SEVEN YEARS (Routledge and Kegan Paul. 30s.), is not a book about himself so much as a conjuring up of the atmosphere in which he has so long delighted to work. It reveals a man of extraordinary zeal, but not a zealot. He was willing to risk his unique position and popularity to defend the Arabs and the refugees in the new Israeli state.

Those who know the glories of the Welsh coast, the twin peninsulas of Gower and Castlemartin, and who also delight in sea-fishing, will give a welcome to Clive Gammon's A TIDE OF FISH (Heinemann. 18s.). Mr. Gammon is a great admirer of this still unspoilt coast. In this delightfully written book he asks us to share his pleasure, and to ensure that encroachments do not deny the place as we know it to the next generation.

Studying Roman, medieval and later buildings reveals much about the men who built them and their way of life. In his fascinating symposium STUDIES IN BUILDING HISTORY (Odhams Press. 63s.), E. M. Jope, Reader in Archæology at Queen's University, Belfast, has brought together in one erudite volume a series of essays on these related themes. W. A. Pantin, for instance, writes on The Medieval Inn, E. M. Jope himself looks at Cornish houses, H. G. Leask examines early seventeenth-century houses in Ireland, and W. Douglas Simpson has as his particular theme the Tower-Houses of Scotland. The layman will be surprised at how often these paths cross, with trends and styles passing from one to the other in a variety of ways by a variety of routes.

Because the Second World War was in truth world-wide it was basically a naval war. The Allied navies carried the Allied armies across the seas to scores of hostile shores, played a major part in isolating the prospective beachheads, thrust aside opposing fleets, put the invaders ashore in the teeth of enemy defences, supported them with naval gunfire and carrier aircraft, and kept them supplied and reinforced in spite of enemy attacks. In carrying out such missions the U.S. Navy grew into a vast and complex organisation. In THE GREAT SEA WAR (Harrap. 42s.), E. B. Potter and Fleet Admiral Chester Nimitz have combined to present this dramatic story, using a wealth of diagrammatic drawings and maps to illustrate the text. It is not to be thought that this is merely an American portrait of American prowess. Far from it. We see the Allied picture as near whole as the authors can make it.

THE STEEL NAVY (Macdonald. 15s.) is a concise and comprehensive reference book in silhouette form of the names and salient particulars of all the principal vessels built for the fleets of the British Commonwealth since the construction of the first ironclad. The author is James Dolby

Harold Burn, Emeritus Professor of Pharmacology at Oxford, has written a really first-class book for general reading in DRUGS, MEDICINES AND MAN (Allen and Unwin. 25s.). If you really want to know what nicotine does to you; why an apple a day keeps the doctor at bay; how insulin aids and abets the diabetic; how you can cure the drinking habit if you are so minded, here it all is in direct and vigorous language.

Notice is given of three additions to the World's Classics series, all published by Oxford University Press. SIX CAROLINE PLAYS (9s. 6d. net), edited with an introduction by A. S. Knowland; SELECTIONS FROM SAMUEL JOHNSON (8s. 6d. net), edited by R. W. Chapman, and FOUR PLAYS AND THE ARAN ISLANDS. by J. M. Synge (8s. 6d. net).

Richard Edmonds

abandonment and cruelty till he loses memory and speech and only regains both in the loving security of a casually adoptive family, and in the friendship of a mongrel dog. Miss McCallum writes with a welcome simplicity and an unstressed tenderness which make the tale she tells all the more touching. A very interesting new writer to watch.

Miss Mary Astor was, and is, a beautiful film actress of intelligence and originality. A proof, if not of her good looks at least of her versatility, is that she is no mean writer of fiction, and that her new novel, THE INCREDIBLE CHARLIE CAREWE (Redman. 16s.), demonstrates both her story-telling ability and her interest in some of the by-ways of psychological case histories. The young man who is the principal character in the story—and an " anti-hero " in a big way—is handsome, rich, much loved and has an impeccable background of well-bred family and traditional education. The snag is that he has neither moral standards nor conscience of any kind. He is totally untouched by the gravity of his crimes and near-crimes and continues to have the effective protection of his family. Miss Astor has written the history of a monster and, whether you believe in it or not, she has written it with conviction and considerable expertise.

Again from America comes JOY TO LEVINE ! (Michael Joseph. 18s.), by Mrs. Norma Stahl Rosen, whose novel deals with the loves and hopes of a youngish man working in a decaying New York office; the kind, marvellous to relate, which hasn't yet achieved air-conditioning. He is Jewish, which is important to the plot, and he is enamoured of a buxom fellow-worker with an Italian surname. To the reader's relief, however, this is not another version of *Abie's Irish Rose*, but a sensitive and often funny account of the inner workings of a small business and the timid progress of what proves to be an all-Jewish love affair.

YOU ARE MINE (Heinemann. 16s.) is a first novel by a young Norwegian writer, Miss Camilla Carlson, and it is a tender and yet strong piece of work. The theme is the love of a girl for her almost unknown son, whom she bore in her sixteenth year and whom her puritanical parents forced her to send to an orphanage. There are lyrical moments in this story and a pathos which is far from being mawkish. Altogether a more than promising start to a novelist's career.

One of the classic aspects of private eyes, or non-police detectives, is that they all have three well-defined assets: physical resilience, quickness of repartee and a bottle of rye in the bottom drawer of their desks. The hero of Mr. Paul Costello's BLUE DIAMOND (Cassell. 12s. 6d.) conforms neatly in each particular except that his alcohol cache contains vodka. The setting, very properly, is California and the pace is fast, quite fast enough, in fact, to bustle the reader into accepting what is just a new version of the classic Maharajah's Stolen Jewel story. I enjoyed it very much and especially relished some of the dialogue which crackles and snaps away most amusingly.

If one can believe in the *naïveté* of the English heroine of Mrs. Josephine Bell's new thriller, ADVENTURE WITH CRIME (Hodder and Stoughton. 12s. 6d.), then, more or less as the Duke of Wellington said, one can believe anything. For in this entertaining story of a girl's bus ride across the United States (and the details of that are wonderfully well observed) Frances not only consorts with murderers but falls in love with them and treats both police and F.B.I. as dangerous enemies. I suppose there has seldom been such a ham-fisted heroine as far as personal relationships are concerned, but Mrs. Bell has used this device wittily and astutely and the sum total is very well worth while.

Vernon Fane

Jenny Acton (Geraldine McEwan) reflects that her legs are too stumpy, watched by Bernard (Derek Godfrey)

Leonie Pimosz (Betty Baskcomb) calls on Jenny

EVERYTHING IN THE GARDEN

at the Arts Theatre

The Royal Shakespeare Company began their play-a-month season of experimental new drama at the Arts Theatre last week. This is designed to provide new actors, directors and writers for the Company's work at the Aldwych Theatre and at Stratford-upon-Avon. Chosen for the first of these interesting productions was Giles Cooper's outrageous and occasionally splendidly comic *Everything in the Garden*. The company is led by Geraldine McEwan and Derek Godfrey as a young suburban couple whose income never quite catches up with their way of life (keeping up with the neighbours, boy at public school, garden). Into the wife's boredom erupts a sinister Polish woman, who suggests the way for the wife to make money is to work afternoons in her fashionable brothel. Without toppling into the pitfalls of bad taste, the play provides moments of genuine satirical comedy.

At the Actons' party are Beryl (Carole Boyer); Louise (Audine Leith); Laura (Caroline Blakiston); Jenny and Bernard; and their son, Roger (Diarmid Cammell)

LEADERS OF BRITISH INDUSTRY

Photographed by Tom Hustler

Eric Turner

When Mr. Turner became chairman last year, at the age of forty-two, of the B.S.A. Group—the Birmingham Small Arms Co. Ltd.—he took charge of one of Britain's largest engineering combines with interests including motor-cycles, machine tools and steel. Responsibility while comparatively young is no new experience to Mr. Turner. During the last war, he rose from the ranks to become a lieut.-colonel, commanding an organisation of 100 aeroplanes and 3,000 troops which airlifted supplies to the Burma armies. Eric Turner was born in 1918 and was educated at Chesterfield School, in Derbyshire. He qualified as a chartered accountant at the beginning of the last war and on demobilisation joined Blackburn Aircraft Ltd. as chief accountant. Rapid promotion made him successively secretary, financial director, managing director and chairman. He joined B.S.A. in 1960 as deputy chairman and chief executive. Mr. Turner is also a director of Associated Electrical Industries Ltd., Iron Trades Employers' Insurance Association Ltd., and a member of the Industrial Development Board for Malta. Married, Mr. Turner lives at Barnt Green, in Worcestershire. His hobbies are golf and backgammon

INDUSTRY IN THE BACK GARDEN

By "THE SPHERE" INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

It used to be said in the United States, back in the early post-war years when the great parkways and toll roads were being laid, that it wasn't until the first bulldozer cut through your hedge and got halfway across your back garden that there was a knock on your front door and a suave gentleman with a cheque book asked you to sign on the dotted line of a form granting the company right of way. You hadn't much chance to argue: behind the persuasion, the company had the assurance that it could get a compulsory purchase order, anyway. It isn't quite that way in Britain. More and more often, certainly, the development demands of industry, in particular of the communications and transport industries, are beginning to collide with private householders' and landowners' rights. But the outcome here isn't yet a foregone conclusion.

Two Parliamentary Bills that came into the news the same week recently illustrated this point; and the same Minister who introduced the one had to withdraw the other, on this very point. The first, a Bill governing the development of pipelines in Britain, came into being because Parliament, as well as a number of landowners, were uneasy about giving rights of compulsory purchase to a private company. The second, which dealt with the storage of gas underneath Winchester, was withdrawn because on reflection the Minister of Power seemed to feel a nationalised industry may not have taken enough notice of the people whose property might possibly be affected.

When you consider the nature of these projects you can understand why Sir Christopher Hinton has said that the thing which takes up more of his time than any other in running a public utility is the question of amenity. The electricity industry is used to a lengthy delay, and a long process of public objections and inquiry, before it can string a big new power transmission line across the countryside. Both the industries involved in these latest arguments about amenity are dealing with facilities that are—eventually—invisible. So they avoid, at any rate, the æsthetic and conservationist arguments about keeping the land unspoilt. But their transport and storage systems can't be brought into being and operated without some possible interference with other people's property. And it is when some business seeks to intrude on our own property, offering to pay us much less than we should guess for land that we didn't want to see disturbed anyway, that we all begin to argue.

As things stand, if anyone wants to lay a pipeline in Britain he doesn't absolutely have to have any official permission at all: there is, at present, no general pipeline legislation extant in this country. On the other hand, a pipeline usually crosses a lot of people's land; unless the company which is putting it down is completely sure that it can make friendly agreements with all those people, it may need to seek powers to bring the ones who won't agree, literally, into line. British Petroleum promoted a private Bill in Parliament to get compulsory purchase powers for a line in Wales in 1957; Shell got one through in 1958; Esso's in 1960 was the latest of these Bills on pipelines and the last. There will be no more private Bills on this subject; nor, for that matter, will any more lines be laid without bothering Whitehall, by companies confident they have all the necessary assents from landlords in advance. From the time the present Pipelines Bill becomes law, Britain will have a regular code covering the development of this rapidly-increasing method of transport.

In mid-1960, a select committee considering the Esso Bill reported to the Minister of Power that it thought this kind of Bill was not the right way to authorise pipeline development, which needed general legislation. This private Bill procedure, it felt, could not give the private landowners concerned as much protection as they had under general legislation covering compulsory purchase by Government departments or other official bodies. The Minister of Power accepted the point. This was not concerned with the virtues of the particular Esso development or the generosity of its compensation; Esso managed to reach a voluntary agreement with no fewer than 202 out of the 204 landowners affected by its lines from Fawley refinery to London Airport and to I.C.I.'s chemical works at Severnside, and has paid pretty generous rates.

The new Bill, which may run into some opposition in Parliament in that it takes the power to authorise pipelines away from Parliament and gives it to a departmental Minister, does allow for the grant of compulsory purchase to the company laying the line; but it also imposes some "public utility" obligations on the developer. If the Minister is advised that the volume of oil or other products expected to be needed moving along this route in some years' time is greater than the project allows for, he can require the developing company to put in a larger-capacity line (either one of bigger diameter, or with provision for extra pumping stations). He can also, to avoid a multiplicity of lines along the same route, require the company that owns any new pipeline, to allow other companies to move similar products along its line, and may regulate the charges it makes for doing so. So the private companies that can apply for compulsory powers under this new law are taking on new obligations as well.

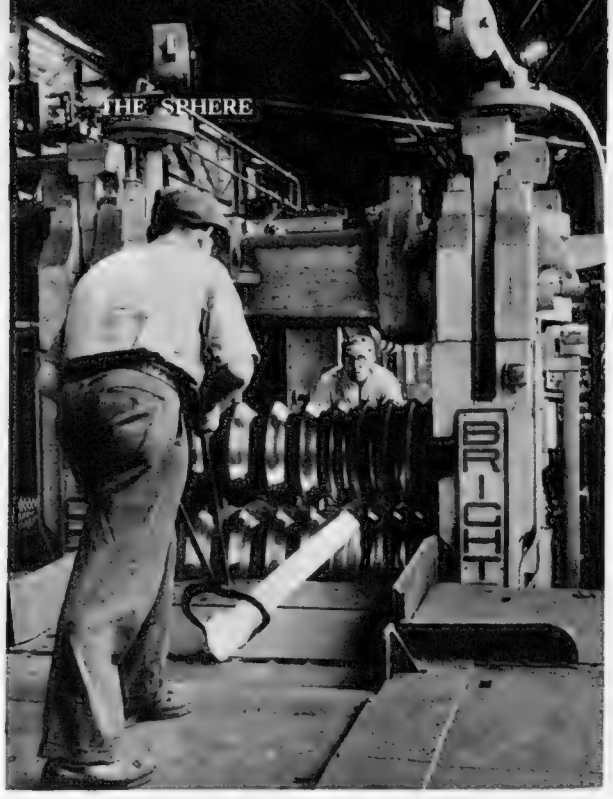
The gas industry has had compulsory powers and public utility obligations imposed on it for a century or more; but this year it ran into a new kind of problem. With its monopoly of the sale of gas through pipes, it is well equipped with powers to excavate and lay its gas mains, and people are accustomed to its operations, which cannot reasonably be interrupted or delayed because they often involve safety. But it isn't used to keeping gas underground, only to moving it. When the gas authorities found a possible underground storage container that extends under many people's property they had to seek new powers. But objections from a number of landowners, and sharp questions from a few Back Bench M.P.s in the Commons, have caused the Minister of Power to withdraw the Bill for reconsideration.

The gas industry's Bill for underground storage contained two points that bothered the local property owners. First, what was the value of their rights in land far below the surface (more than 250 ft. down)? Secondly, the Bill forbade anybody but the Gas Council from boring in this area below sea-level; and being uncertain of the possible repercussions of underground gas storage on the local water-table, local property owners think they might need to bore quite deep in future to get individual well supplies.

Obviously, if they bore deep into an underground "anti-cline" in which the Gas Council has been storing gas by pumping it into a sandy layer of rock where the gas simply takes the place of the water now saturating the sand, other people may tap the gas. And as the law now stands, if they do they can have the gas; anything that comes from under their land is their own. There wouldn't be much point for the local gas board in providing free supplies in this way to any of the people living over an area of 3,500 acres who bothered to bore down their own gas "main." In order to make use of the permeable strata for gas storage—which is a highly sensible idea economically and technically—it has to be sure that other people's underground rights are extinguished.

Just how much it ought to pay for extinguishing those rights, and whether any special safety or other precautions are necessary, is now to be investigated before the Bill comes to Parliament again. The Gas Council claims that it took all these matters into account before promoting its private Bill; local landowners don't agree. Once again, this may be an issue involving public amenity and industrial development where the private Bill procedure won't do.

Awaiting dispatch from the works of John Thompson (Wolverhampton) Ltd. is massive equipment for the Brazilian Petrobros refinery in Rio de Janeiro. The three vessels, each 9 ft. in diameter, 55 ft. long, and weighing over 70 tons, are rotating disc contactors, the first to be manufactured in Britain. A British consortium (Brefcon) was formed to supply the plant for the Petrobros refinery



Teeming a stainless steel centrespring in the Sheffield foundry of Firth-Vickers Stainless Steel Limited. **Right:** Rolling a stainless steel bar at Firth-Vickers' Staybrite Works, where rounds up to 6 in. in diameter are produced in addition to other sections

Tapping 70 tons of molten steel from an
Fox & Co., Ltd., in Sheffield. The furnace

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR STAINLESS STEELS

The connection between gun barrels of the First World War and the modern stainless steel sink is not easily apparent, but a brief look at the history and evolution of this remarkable metal will soon explain their relationship.

Stainless steel is now so much an accepted part of the industrial and domestic scene that it is sometimes difficult to realise that it was unknown until 1913. In that year, a Sheffield metallurgist named Harry Brearley was carrying out research work into the causes of erosion in gun barrels. He happened to notice that one of his steel samples did not etch in the normal way when placed in an acid bath, so he left it in the open to see if it would rust. When it didn't, Brearley knew that he was on to an exciting discovery and persuaded a Sheffield cutler to make some knife blades from it. The knives remained bright and untarnished without the usual scouring and powdering. The stainless steel age had begun.

What is the special characteristic of stainless steel that distinguishes it from other steels, or indeed other metals? Actually, the term "stainless steel" is applied to a whole series of alloys of steel which all have one thing in common: an outstanding ability to resist corrosion or rusting. This is chiefly because they contain chromium, although other elements such as nickel, molybdenum and titanium are added to vary the mechanical and corrosion resisting properties according to the intended application.

While there are over sixty different types of stainless steels available commercially, one of the most widely used contains approximately 18 per cent. of chromium and 8 per cent. of nickel. This is the stainless steel familiar in so many homes in the form of sinks, cooking utensils and tableware. Because it is a solid metal and in no way a surface coating, the attractive lustre of stainless steel will not chip or peel away but will last a lifetime with no more than normal washing in soap and water.

Before the Second World War, stainless steel rapidly established itself in many industries where a corrosion-resisting hygienic material was required. Dairies, breweries, textile dyeing plants and manufacturers of chemical plant and catering equipment became large consumers and today still remain some of the principal outlets for stainless steels.

During the war, large tonnages went into the expanding aircraft industry, hospital equipment and many other important applications, while its use for non-essential work was severely restricted. It was then realised that the post-war years would bring a demand far greater than the industry could handle and so plans were made for increasing the production capacity. Soon after the war ended the largest and most modern mill for the continuous rolling of stainless steel sheet was installed in Sheffield and modernisation and expansion plans were taking shape throughout the industry. From a total production of 44,000 ingot tons in 1945 the figure rose to 90,000 by 1951.

This expansion in capacity has been accompanied by advances in production techniques and research into improved steels, to ensure that the industry remains fully competitive with overseas producers. To enable full advantage to be taken of up-to-date techniques and to withstand the increased temperatures and corrosive conditions of modern processes, maintenance of quality has become all important and great emphasis is placed on this at all stages of manufacture.

By these continued efforts production has now risen to 220,000 ingot tons per year and the fact that many companies still have large expansion schemes in hand confirms the confidence of the industry in its own future.

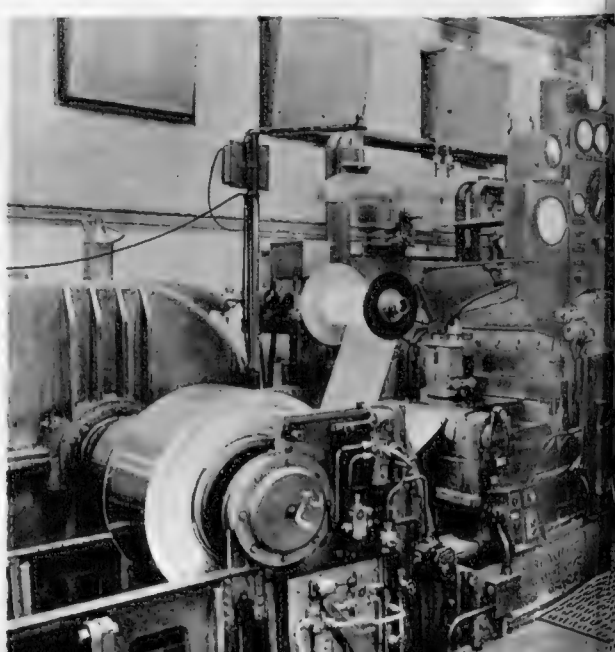
It has been seen that the consumption of stainless steel is related to the standard of living; Sweden is now using an annual average of 34 lb. per head of population and in America during her prosperous years consumption rose to 27 lb. Britain at present makes about 10 lb. per head and this is expected to rise to 12·5 lb. during this year.

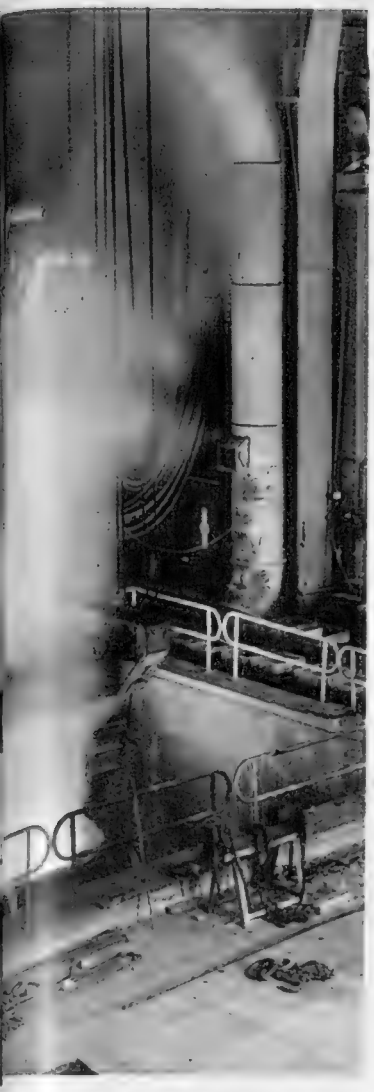
In line with production expansion and technological advance must come a greater

(*Continued on page 490*)

A Sendzimir cold rolling mill for the production of stainless

A Sendzimir mill at the Trubrite Steel Works of Arthur



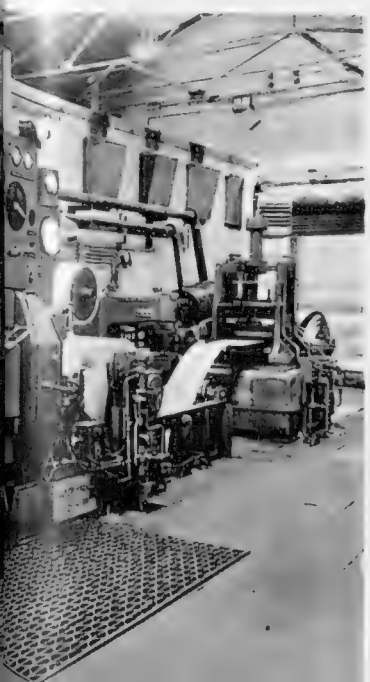


ctric furnace at the works of Samuel
s a hearth which is 19 ft. in diameter

Rolling stainless steel plates for use in chemical plant where the highest resistance to corrosion is essential at the Sheffield works of Samuel Fox & Co., Ltd.

el strip at the Firth-Vickers works

e & Sons, Ltd.



The new Sendzimir mill for the rolling of stainless steel at the Panteg Works of Richard Thomas & Baldwins Limited. This mill has high rolling speeds and large reduction capabilities enabling strip to be rolled to very thin gauges

BRIGHT PROSPECTS FOR STAINLESS STEELS

(*Continued from previous pages*)

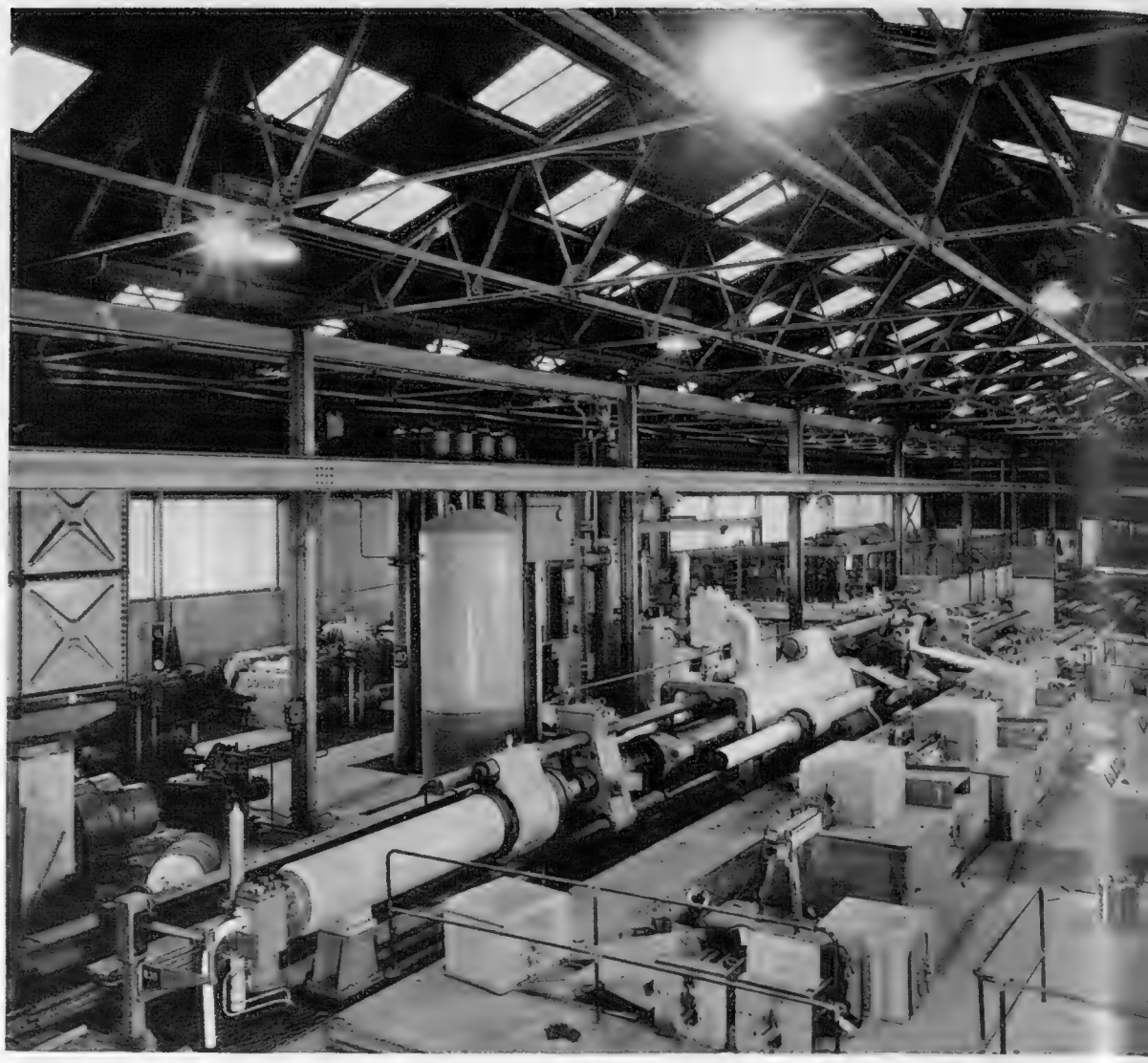
emphasis on market development to ensure that not only are we able to hold our own in the face of the fierce competition from foreign producers, but also to remain competitive with alternative materials. This entails not only enlarging existing markets but developing new ones and here trends in other countries are indicative of what may be expected.

Two leading applications of stainless steel, namely the kitchen sink, and the automobile, are still capable of tremendous expansion. About 6,000 tons goes into British motor-cars each year for such applications as radiator grills, window and door surrounds, hub-caps, windscreen wipers and many other accessories, an average of about 12 lb. per car. In America the figure is 25 lb. For the motorist the increasing use of stainless steel has many advantages; it will withstand knocks and scratches better than plated steel and non-ferrous metals, removes the drudgery from cleaning, and because it resists corrosion and maintains its appearance the resale value of the car is greatly enhanced.

If the properties of stainless steel show up well in the all-weather conditions of modern driving, they are equally impressive in another out-door application—the curtain walling of buildings. Here again, the United States has set the pace, consuming 50,000 tons in this application alone during 1961. There are already a dozen office blocks, factory buildings and laboratories in Britain either clad with stainless steel panels or employing the metal for window units or mullions. Londoners are now able to see a most impressive example of stainless steel curtain walling in the 400-ft.-high Vickers House tower near the Tate Gallery.

Because stainless steel is still a relatively expensive material, many architects and property owners are inclined to question the economics of using it. Yet with careful design it need not increase the cost of a building and will impart a fine, soft metallic lustre that will last the life of the building at the expense of an occasional washing—and with our normal rainfall, even that may be unnecessary.

Industry continues to find new applications for this versatile metal, for example for modern food handling and catering equipment, for pressure vessels and road tankers. Incidentally it is worth noting that it has virtually supplanted all other metals for hospital equipment, where absolute asepsis is the prime requisite. However, it is in the domestic field that the greatest strides have been made during recent years. Rising standards of living have brought increasing demands for consumer durables such as washing machines and spin-driers, where it is now common for a stainless steel tub to be incorporated. Manufacturers of hollow-ware—cooking utensils and tea and coffee sets, for example—purchased 70 per cent. more stainless steel sheets in the first six months of 1961 than in the same period in 1960. Stainless steel cutlery continues to make significant inroads into the traditional market for silver plate.



A view of the extrusion plant at Low Moor Fine Steels Limited, at Low Moor in Bradford, where all grades can be extruded

Stainless steel is also playing an indispensable part in the exciting new ventures of supersonic flight, nuclear power and rocketry, where its corrosion, heat- and creep-resisting properties are deemed essential for such exacting applications.

The industry now faces a challenging future having entered a buyers' market and looks to almost certain intensification of international competition when we enter the European Common Market. In the same way that production has confidently been increased, so the sales effort has been correspondingly strengthened. Export trade is increasing and world markets offer great opportunities. With the progress made over the last few years the British stainless steel industry is prepared to meet future demands with confidence.

A section of the sheet warehouse of Firth-Vickers Stainless Steels Limited. **Right:** A Quantometer, which is used for the analysis of stainless and other types of steel, at the works of Brown Bayley Steels Limited in Sheffield

A guillotine for cutting stainless steel sheets to specific dimensions at the Walsall works of Padley Stainless Steels Limited

Stainless steel equipment is used in a bottling plant of the Express Dairy Co., Ltd., in Cricklewood. **Right:** Stainless steel has a variety of uses in the kitchen. **Below:** The dining-room of the Hereford Works of Henry Wiggin and Co., Ltd., includes a wide application of stainless steel

A pressure vessel end made of stainless clad steel which has been spun on the Rotarpress at the Greenwich works of G. A. Harvey and Co., Ltd. The end weighs 6¼ tons, is 12 ft. 6 ins. in diameter and is made from 1¾-in. thick "Colclad" plate. This specially made clad steel has a ⅛-in. thickness of stainless steel bonded to a 1⅝-in. thickness of carbon steel. There are believed to be only four Rotarpresses in Europe

INDUSTRY AND THE STOCK MARKET

TV QUESTIONS

By "THE SPHERE" CITY CORRESPONDENT

Within the next few months shareholders in an important section of British industry will have several months' uncertainties resolved. The industry is commercial television and the uncertainty will be resolved by publication of the Pilkington Committee's report. Announcement of this Committee's formation brought further uncertainty to an industry that had already received its fair share of changing fortunes.

In 1964, the present Independent Television Authority, an official body which supervises the industry, will cease to exist, and the agreements of the programme contractors—that is, the commercial television companies—will end at the same time. Forecasts of the likely Pilkington recommendations are widespread, but the City has reacted to uncertainty in its traditional way, by investors' reluctance to buy shares in these companies. Over the past year or so, commercial television share prices have tended to drift, offering dividend yields well above the industrial average.

Four of the best-known companies are Associated-Rediffusion, Associated TeleVision, Associated British Picture Corporation and Granada. The first is owned by industrial companies, the third and fourth are linked to cinema interests, while the second has been diversifying its business. All have a similar capital structure, with voteless shares held by the public and the smaller number of voting shares held by various interests: any change of ownership in voting shares has to be sanctioned by the I.T.A.

Revenue of these, and all other commercial television companies, stems from advertising. In 1960, this revenue totalled nearly £77,000,000 compared with the £134,000,000 spent on Press advertising. Basic costs in commercial television come from programme production, with the main need to meet B.B.C. competition. To modify the steady rise in costs, several of the commercial television companies have formed networking agreements for the exchange of facilities.

Associated-Rediffusion, whose revenue exceeded £20,000,000 in 1960, has no shares quoted on any stock exchange. Practically all the ordinary capital is owned by the British Electric Traction Holding Group and by Rediffusion. For both these companies, growing dividends from A.-R. have proved a useful buttress to profits in recent years, though neither company includes A.-R. in its own accounts.

Of those television companies in which investors can buy shares direct, one of the best known is Associated TeleVision. Its financial history presents a typical picture of the industry as a whole.

Made a programme contractor under the 1954 Television Act, A.T.V. showed a £600,000 loss in its first year, to April 1956. A small profit was earned in the following year, but only in 1957 a strong recovery appeared. In that year A.T.V. earned close to £2,000,000 and has expanded steadily since then, just surpassing £3,000,000 in 1960-61. Shareholders received no dividend until 1958, but their current rate is equivalent to 120 per cent. on the former capital.

By contrast with both Associated-Rediffusion and Associated Tele-Vision, Granada and Associated British Picture Corporation started with important entertainment interests—in the cinema. A.B. Pictures operate some 300 cinemas and are the largest cinema group after the Rank Organisation. During 1955-56 the group formed A.B.C. Television, which has been wholly owned since 1958. Group profits were halved from £750,000 to £370,000 between 1955 and 1956, recovered to £550,000 the following year and have since expanded to just over £2,000,000 in the year to March 1961. Over this period, shareholders' dividend has been trebled. A.B. Pictures' shares, which could be bought for less than 10s. in 1957, are now selling for the equivalent of 50s

Granada, the fourth major commercial television group, has proved an even more spectacular performer in the Stock Exchange. The reasons for this startling performance are, first, the relatively small size of Granada before commercial television, and second, Granada's delay in revealing the full benefits of commercial television profits. The reason for this delay lies in a networking agreement with Associated-Rediffusion, which apparently helped Granada during its early years. Granada, which had never earned more than £60,000 after tax in the post-war years (most of its profits came from forty or so cinemas), just avoided a loss in 1957. Next year, Granada earned over £200,000.

Outside these four large companies, several important groups operate in the provinces. The best known is the Thomson Organisation, controlled by Thomson Scottish Associates. Apart from its widespread newspaper interests, the Thomson Organisation operates Scottish Television, programme contractors for central Scotland, including Glasgow and Edinburgh. For 1961, larger group profits have been indicated, though the directors have stated that the Government's July measures had adversely affected advertising revenues.

Anyone buying shares in commercial television companies must accept the risks inherent in the unknown Pilkington recommendations. Against this, dividend yields, ranging up to 10 per cent. on Associated TeleVision, allow for a good deal of uncertainty. Looking further ahead, investors must decide whether they want a stake in commercial television alone or whether there is a case for preferring a group which also operates in some allied business. A.T.V. is largely a commercial television group, while Granada and, to a greater extent, Associated British Pictures, are supported by cinema interests. People who anticipate difficulties in the cinema industry, and are impressed by the potential of newspapers and magazines, should find the Thomson Organisation a rewarding investment over the years ahead.

GOOD LIVING

By Ganymede

I am sure my readers will be interested to know that here in London there is a large and well-equipped wine cellar where nearly 1,000,000 bottles of fine wines rest in bins, with a corresponding number of wines in cask. All the fascinating activities of a busy cellar are carried on all the time—bottling by traditional methods and by machines, labelling, packing—everything you would want to see being done. What makes this establishment really unusual is that visitors are always welcome, and all any member of the public or groups of people have to do is to write or telephone to make an appointment.

I am speaking of Lyons Wine Cellars, Hop Exchange, Southwark Street, which I have visited recently. I saw Mr. Edward White, the buyer and manager, who has been associated with the cellars for thirty years. He is one of those rare people who have reached a stage in their career where their experience and knowledge of their subject has resulted in a degree of sure and calm expertise.

Mr. White has some original thoughts on his trade. For example, he only includes wines on offer in the firm's list which are ready for drinking. He is helped in this, of course, by the great resources at his disposal, which make it possible for him to lay down and store wines as long as may be necessary. There is no need for him to put immature wines on the market to release the capital tied up in them. These same resources also enable him to buy in France and elsewhere very advantageously. He visits the vineyards on a grand tour at least once a year.

I spoke to Mr. White of the people who want to buy wines for laying down. (They are a diminished number these days.) "We don't cater for them," was his reply. "There are other merchants they can go to. I like to think that our customers are in the middle income groups and we want them to regard this as their own cellar."

He likes to encourage clients and others to visit the cellars, and nobody is ever refused this facility. What is more, not only are such visitors given a conducted tour of the cellars, but invariably a tasting of some interesting wines is arranged for them as well. Under the old Hop Exchange building these cellars cover over an acre of ground where once a prison stood. I was told that the vaults are the original prison foundations, and having seen them I can well believe it.

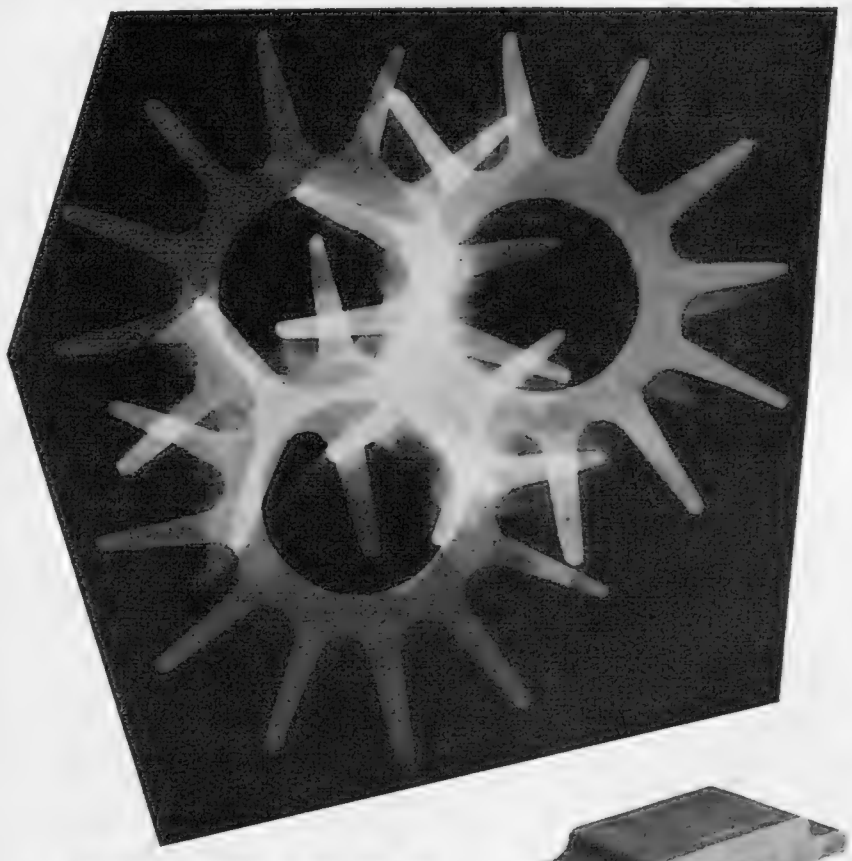
Like all visitors, I was given a tasting by Mr. White, and he chose six clarets; three each of 1955 and 1957. The '55's were Château Cissac (a bourgeois growth of the Medoc), Château de Ferrand (St. Emilion) and Château Batailley (Pauillac); and the '57's Château Phélan Ségur (St. Estephe), Château Montrose (St. Estephe) and Château Talbot (St. Julien). The comparisons were most revealing. The Cissac was the biggest wine of the '55's with a nice bouquet: this has still a little way to go. While the de Ferrand looked the most ready of the three by its colour, it was somewhat hard, indicating too much acid. Clearly the best was the Batailley, with a fine round finish and great elegance. Of the '57's, Phélan Ségur was very forward, but light and thinnish, and the Talbot was a little fuller, but still very light and dry. The Montrose was the best of the three '57's, a soft, well-balanced, beautiful big wine. All these are in the current list, priced from 10s. 6d. to 15s. My two favourites, the Château Batailley 1955 and the Château Montrose 1957, are priced at 13s. 6d. and 14s. 6d. respectively, which I consider excellent value. So is the Château Cissac at 10s. 6d. a bottle.

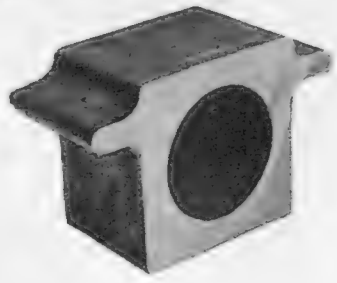
As the wine cellars are, in fact, a department of J. Lyons and Co., and they were originally started to supply wines for the firm's many restaurants, it was logical that Mr. White should take me to lunch to one of those restaurants. With it we had another fine example of Mr. White's art—a bottle of Leoville Barton 1952. A delightful wine, it will be found on the list at the Trocadero and one or two of the other restaurants. Unfortunately, it is not on the retail list, which only has a 1953 of this Château.

I like the look of a small elementary booklet, *Short Guide to Wine*, of which a new edition has just been issued. I understand that, first published in 1951, over 2,500,000 copies have been distributed. The revised edition explains the basic facts about wines, vintages, wine lists, and other things beginners want to know. It is issued by the Friends of Wine, and if any reader cannot get a copy from his wine merchant, I shall be pleased to have one sent. It is particularly useful as a first introduction to the subject for young people.

'Surely he's heard of Moss Bros'

shapes of things to come





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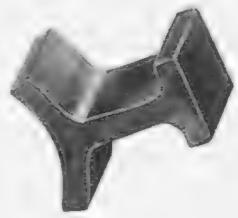

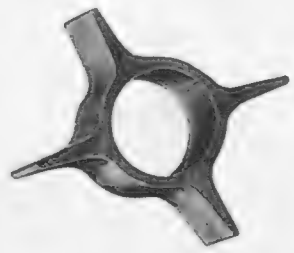

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MOTORING

A NEW ITALIAN COUPE

News of car auctions and other topics

By **COURTENAY EDWARDS**

I had been looking forward to trying out the Fiat 2300S coupé ever since I first saw it at last year's Frankfurt Motor Show, where Italy's Count Johnny Lurani commended it to me in terms of near rapture. My chance came the other day when one of these sleek, Ghia-styled 2·3-litre sports cars was driven over from Turin to take its place in a display of Fiat models staged by Mr. Jack Barclay in his Berkeley Square showrooms.

It has since gone back to Italy, for only about thirty have yet been built and production is no more than about four a day. No right-hand-drive models have yet been made and the 2300S will not be on sale in Britain until the spring. When it is, the price—not yet worked out—will probably be in the region of £2,900.

This new Fiat goes like a bird, its 6-cylinder, Lampredi-designed engine taking it up to 90 in less than 25 secs. Top speed is about 120 m.p.h., though in the short time I had to play about with this low-slung, two-door two-seater (you can also put two small people in the back) I had to be content with an effortless 100 on the Western Avenue.

This is a car which is happiest when revving fast. With such a vivacious response to the throttle and such efficient Girling disc brakes it is obviously a car in which you can maintain high average speeds in great safety and with little fatigue. It is designed for the motoring connoisseur and its generous specification includes many features that will commend it to the enthusiast.

From among them I single out for special mention the admirable four-speed, all-synchromesh gear-box controlled by a nicely-placed floor lever and offering noiseless downward changes at almost any tachometer reading; the red lamps built into the trailing edges of the doors which light up warningly whenever the doors are opened; an engine fan which does not work until the coolant exceeds a certain temperature; and warning lights on the fascia to rebuke you if you leave the handbrake on or forget to push in the choke.

I was one of 1,500 guests who converged on Measham (Leicestershire) recently to attend a party given by Mr. David Wickins to celebrate the take-over of Measham Motor Sales, one of the country's biggest car-auction centres, by his Southern Counties organisation.

Mr. Wickins and his three brothers now run sixteen weekly car auctions at ten different centres and they can lay claim to Southern Counties being the biggest organisation of its kind in the world. The Wickins family do not pretend that you and I, as private motorists, would stand to gain much by selling or buying cars at their sales but they do in fact render a valuable service by acting as a kind of stock exchange of the motor trade.

There is no fairer way of determining the true market value of a car at any given moment than by putting it under the hammer in front of an audience of motor dealers who know what the public is asking for and how much it is willing to pay. Most of the business at these auctions is supplied by the big fleet owners who would otherwise find it difficult to sell, say, a couple of hundred cars of the same make and model. Dealers travel long distances to attend these car auctions to buy models their customers are looking for.

At his Measham party Mr. Wickins announced his organisation is about to move into a new H.Q. office block at Farnham, Surrey. It has cost £150,000, including the very latest electronic accountancy equipment.

As I briefly mentioned last week, Mr. Rob Walker (who is closely connected with the whisky family) has been awarded the Ferodo Trophy for his contribution to motor racing last year. It was a year in which a blue-painted, Walker-entered Cooper-Climax driven by Stirling Moss won two of the world championship events: at Monaco and in Germany.

For Rob Walker motor racing has been a rich man's hobby. I suppose it has cost him an average of some £10,000 a year to indulge his fancy. His friendship for Moss and Stirling's great loyalty to Walker have been among the most impressive features, in recent years, of a sport which is becoming more and more commercialised.

The new Fiat 2300S 2·3-litre coupé

New models announced at the Geneva Motor Show last week included the Mercedes-Benz 300 SE convertible and **right:** the Renault Floride four-seat fixed-head coupé. The Mercedes convertible is based on the 300 SE four-door saloon. The new version of the Floride is fitted with a 956-c.c. engine and Lockheed disc brakes on all wheels

Now, it seems, this formidable association is in danger of breaking up because even for a wealthy man it costs too much to run a top-notch racing team. One thing that has influenced Rob Walker in his decision to give up championship racing next year " unless something turns up " is the Government's stupid decision to withdraw the purchase tax concession on racing cars which they introduced to encourage motor racing because of its great value to British prestige, particularly in the engineering field.

It is a concession which has been costing less than £50,000 a year. The Government's attitude is that a prosperous motor industry should be able to afford to pay purchase tax on Grand Prix cars. What they seem to overlook completely is that it is not the big firms who build racing cars but little men like the Coopers and the Chapmans.

With Rob Walker thinking of pulling out it is obvious that Moss must already be looking round to see what he will drive in 1963—and for whom. He has been very patriotic so far, but it would not be surprising if in 1963 he drives for a foreign team like Serenissima, the Italian outfit with which six top Ferrari men who recently fell out with the Commendatore have thrown in their lot.

Last May six British production cars were picked at random by the R.A.C. from various showrooms at the request of the British Petroleum Co. for use in an exceedingly thorough and comprehensive test of the company's Visco-static motor oil.

In nine months since then each car was driven a total distance of 100,000 miles under R.A.C. observation with the instruction: Do not repair or renew any major engine part that is dependant on the lubrication system.

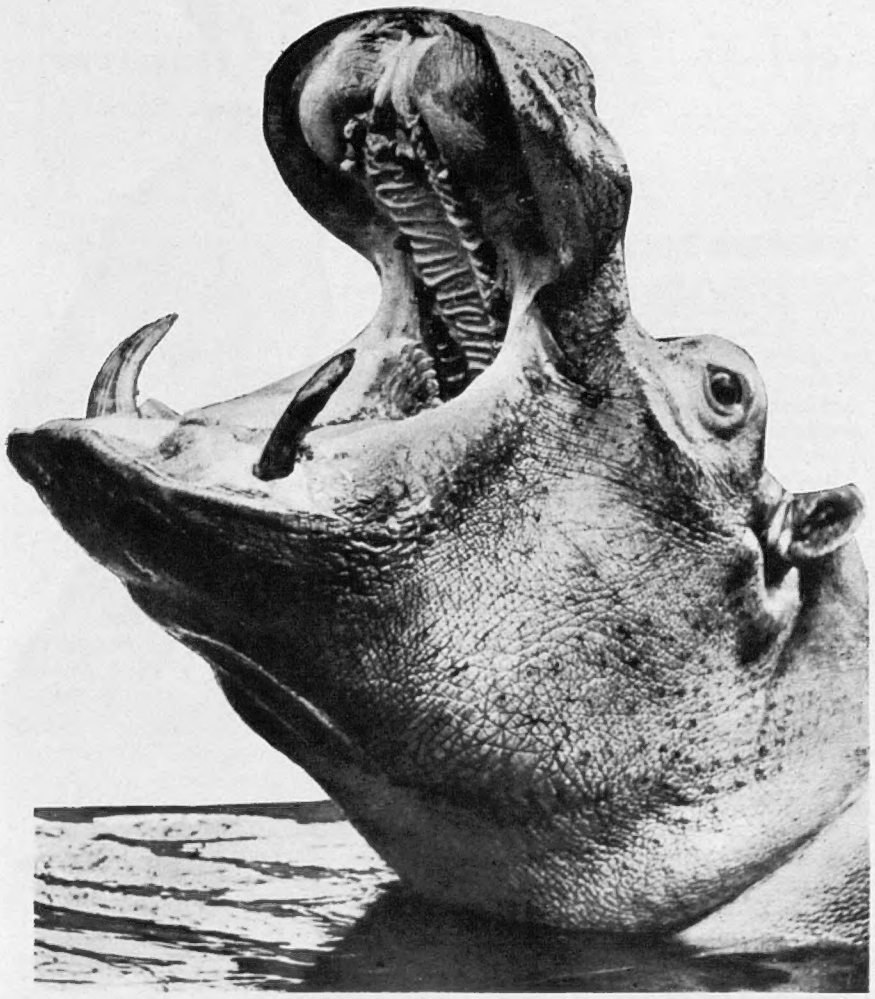
I can now record that each car passed the test successfully. They were a Ford Anglia, Hillman Minx, 3·8 Jaguar, Morris Mini-Minor, Triumph Herald 1200 and a Vauxhall Velox. Most of the driving was done on M1 but a variety of other urban and rural roads were used, with hill climbing in the Cumberland Lake District and elsewhere.

In congratulating BP on this carefully-planned and lavishly documented test I should also like to praise the assortment of cars which emerged from this marathon with credit.

The publicity spotlight now switches to a rival oil firm—Mobil—whose 1962 Economy Run begins at Harrogate next Saturday. Forty starters have been selected by the organising club—Hants and Berks—and they represent thirty-three different models of standard British production cars. They range from B.M.C. Minis to powerful Jaguars. Mr. H. G. W. Kendrick, the fuel economy wizard whose name has dominated the Mobil prize list for years, has left the big car class and will this year be driving a Mini-Cooper.

Briefly. . . . The Institute of Advanced Motorists is trying to encourage the use of rear-wheel mud flaps as a road safety and courtesy gesture by making this accessory available to members (with the Institute badge superimposed) for 25s. post free or 22s. 6d. when bought through group secretaries. . . . According to the *Financial Times* the insurance companies lost £5,773,000 on motor policies in 1960: a big increase on the 1959 deficit. . . .

A section on touring in Russia is included in the R.A.C.'s 700-page Continental Handbook for 1962 (10s. 6d. or 7s. 6d. to members), which has a completely new, easy-to-read atlas and which will be on sale on the bookstalls for the first time. . . .



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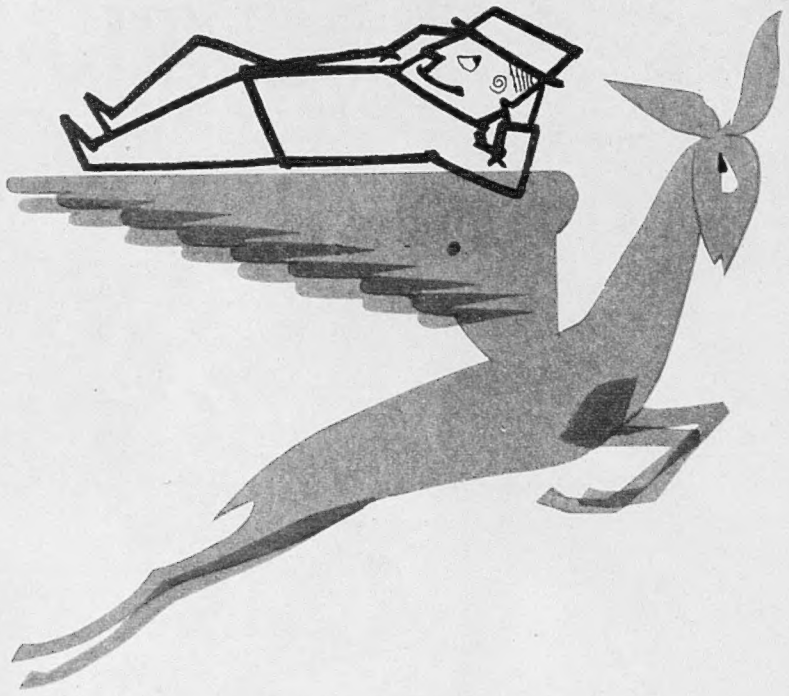

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IN QUEST OF GOOD HOTELS

ADVICE BY ASHLEY COURTENAY

Letters, accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope for reply, should be addressed to him c/o The Editor, THE SPHERE, *Ingram House,* 13-15, *John Adam Street, London, W.C.2.*

UNUSUAL. In an age when there is a tendency to streamline, when thoughts are turned towards the Common Market and when an American influence tends to standardise international hotels, I find in my enquiries a desire to seek out the unusual in holiday accommodation. I suppose the most unusual resort in Britain is still Portmeirion, which comprises an architect-created village and hotel on a private peninsula approached by the tongue-twisting Penrhyndeudraeth-Portmadoc road. It is eighteen years since I first stayed there and wrote: " For a week I lived in a land of make-believe—an architect's dream come true . . . *Portmerion.* Each morning I stepped down to breakfast from one of the gay colour-washed buildings grouped on and around the Battery Rock to the hotel itself; an enlargement of the only existing building that stood on the peninsula. Then Mr. Clough-Williams-Ellis, architect and town planner, discovered his dream site." To me the amazing thing about *Portmerion* is that on successive visits the sense of unusualness does not wear off. What's to do there ? One's inclination is just to stay put. Sunbathing, swimming, sailing, boating, tennis, adventuring between tides to Giffton Island, or enjoying the fantastic cliff walks of this almost island home.

The word " island," turns my thoughts towards the Channel Isles. Alas, they have to some extent been spoilt by the package airflight-all-in-holiday accommodation, but do not be dismayed if you seek the unusual, for I can steer you clear of these attractions of a society that revels in being organised. Have you ever thought of becoming a sociable hermit (a somewhat contradictory term, I agree) on the Island of Herm ? Exactly half-an-hour's trip by motor launch from St. Peter Port, Guernsey, is this tiny island, whose shores are bounded by silvery sands, rocky bays and coves. In the hinterland are wooded valleys and unspoilt peacefulness which the daily excursionist never sees or feels. So, if you feel like freeing yourself from the distractions of your own and the world at large, consider a free, unfettered and unusual holiday at the one and only hotel—*The White House*—where Major Peter Wood has developed the ultimate in unusualness, embracing not only a cheerful Continental staff, but imaginative cooking and complete elasticity of meal times. In short, time here does not tick. It just doesn't count.

It is becoming increasingly difficult to find the unusual in Cornwall, for the narrowest lane is no deterrent to the car-owner of today.

Yet the unusual does exist near the most unexpected places. Who would have thought that close by the busy doorsteps of Newquay's multitudinous hotels is an hotel, exclusive, selective and delectably unusual—*Glendorgal.* When Nigel Tangye and his wife decided to turn his family home into an hotel, he would be the first to admit he hadn't the foggiest knowledge of hotel keeping. On the other hand, he had a profound knowledge of good food and wine, the most perfect private coastal grounds on the edge of the town and is such a born Mine Host that one found oneself as a visitor commiserating with him in his initial deficiencies. The years have gone by, *Glendorgal* is still unusual, but in a generally respected way. Food and wine standards are beyond reproach. Bedroom accommodation is of varying standards and price, but it is years since I have had a letter of complaint from this ten acres of privacy and so if you seek the unusual it lies at Newquay's feet.

Seekers after the unusual will share my enthusiasm for perhaps the most delightfully individual seaside hotel in the whole of Britain—*Tresanton* at sunny sheltered St. Mawes, in south Cornwall. Unusual in the luxury of its appointments, unusual in lay-out and position, unusually good in cuisine, cellar and comfort, it attracts in all seasons those who can enjoy the best and can afford to pay for it; not that *Tresanton* is inordinately expensive. On the contrary indeed—by London first-grade hotel standards. Dependent upon the type of accommodation you desire, inclusive terms in summer range from 63s. to 105s. daily. But what value !

From the seaside my thoughts, still running on the unusual, turn to the road-side and I name *The Bell House* Hotel and Restaurant at Sutton Benger, near Chippenham, as supremely unusual and so strategically situated on the A420 Oxford/Swindon/Chippenham/Bath road, that it will meet with the full approval of those who are westward bound to, say, *The Imperial* at Torquay, *Glendorgal,* Newquay, or *Tresanton,* St. Mawes, for, in both decor, delective food and wines, *Bell House* standards are so unusually high that Mr. and Mrs. John Stratton made no secret of the fact that their hotel is probably the most expensive roadside hotel in Britain. No one goes away, if they understand values, with the feeling that they have been stung. Much of the success of *Bell House* is due to the fact that Mrs. Stratton (who is French) buys of the best, supervises the kitchen and is, in fact, *La Patronne Soigné la Cuisine.* Yet apart from the Strattons' cuisine and cellar knowledge, Mrs. Stratton is gifted in furnishing and decor. Since my wife and I first visited the hotel, we have yet to find another roadside hotel where bedrooms have been furnished in such exquisite taste. The price of enjoying such delectable luxury ? Inclusive terms from 15 to 28 guineas weekly; B.B. 32s. 6d. to 50s. Luncheons *à la carte* from 11s. 6d. minimum; dinners ditto from 21s.; 12½ per cent. service charge. Here surely is a case of " where I dines I sleeps."

Have I exhausted the unusual ? By no means. Those readers who appreciate that East Anglia is the drier side of Britain and is easier to drive around without traffic congestion may or may not have discovered three hotels on the Essex-Suffolk borders, all unusually good, yet each with a common link in that they are run by the members of the Milsom family. The first we hit upon was that black-and-white hotel of unusual name, *Le Talbooth,* at the foot of Gun Hill on the A12 (Colchester/Ipswich road). Of more recent years, the Milsom family acquired *Dedham Vale Hotel,* a few yards off the road, with a most pleasing country home atmosphere. The third of the trio is *Nethergate Hotel* at Clare in Suffolk, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Michael Slade. The latter, before her marriage, was a Milsom and helped her brother Gerald to put *Le Talbooth* on the gastronomic map.

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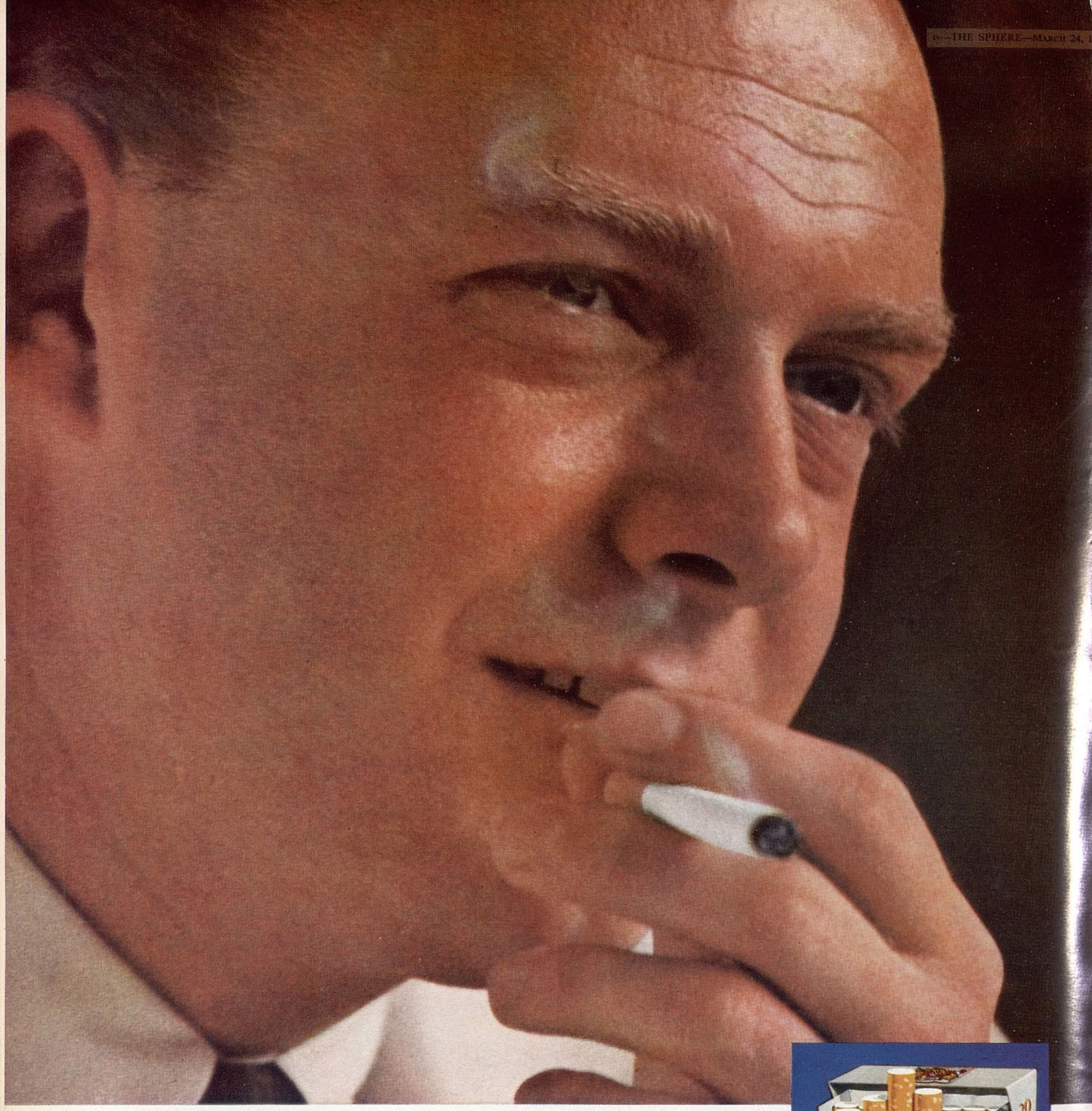

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